



Thursday, June 4, 2015

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CHE ERS! PUB GETS BACKIN

CAMPAIGNERS are celebrating now that a decision to give a Cradley Heath pub protection against developers was upheld after owners called for a rethink.

An internal review has taken place after the Haden Cross in Hale-sowen Road was listed by Sandwell Council as an Asset of Community Value (ACV). Pub owner, Jersey-based property developer New River Retail, had requested the review of the decision, which as owner it has a right to do.

AROUND 100 workers will move out of offices based at Stourbridge's Mary Stevens Park after complaints they were clogging up parking spac-

Dudley Council agreed to find an Dudley Council agreed to find an alternative site for its staff after the Charity Commission launched an investigation. Around half of the workers based at the park will move to an alternative site in Wordsley. Since 200 Dudley Council children's services staff were transferred to a park building last year, campaigners have complained that

they are using up parking spaces that should be available for the public. Stourbridge MP Margot James launched a petition, signed by almost 450, calling for the council to find a

and the column to the column to that a long-term solution to the problem. She also called on the Charity Commission to investigate the council's use of the car park, in light of the 'deed of gift' from Ernest Stevens, which bestowed the park to the mublic

vens, which describes a support of the part of the public.

Ms James said the Commission wrote that it would be 'an unacceptable situation' for the car park to be fully occupied by staff at the expense

a right to do. The council has confirmed its decision to list the pub and its car park as an ACV, which allows the community to put together a bid to buy it should it go up for sale. It followed the setting up of a friends group to safeguard the future of the pub and fight plans to build a Co-Operative store on its car park. Friends chairman Tim Haskey said: "I am very pleased that the hard work on behalf of the community undertaken behind the scenes by the committee has been vindicated with Sandwell's decision." The Haden Cross was the first pub in **Staff moving** New law to out due to car tackle stray park problem horse issue

NEW laws aimed at preventing the

NEW laws aimed at preventing the illegal grazing of horses or the animals being abandoned on public land have come into force.

As many as 3,000 horses are thought to be illegally 'fly-grazing' across the country and the Black Country has long been one of the areas badly affected.

During the past 12 months, a total of 100 horses have been rounded up from streets and fields across Dudley and Sandwell.

Changes to The Control of Horses

Changes to The Control of Horses Act 2015 are designed to ensure that horse owners who graze their animals without permission can now be dealt with more quickly and effectively.

The new law, which has been

The new law, which has been welcomed by the RSPCA, means that irresponsible owners can have their horses seized by the landowner and then sold or otherwise removed within just four days. They can also be charged for any damage to the land and for care of the horses.

In Dudley, 51 horses were collected between April 2014 and March this year. Hotspots include Fens Pool nature reserve, Pensnett, and land near Russells Hall estate,

and land near Russells Hall estate

The Haden Cross was the first pub in Sandwell to be given ACV status, a development noted by communities across the region who are eager to protect their local.

region who are eager to protect their local.
The Friends group will hold a public
meeting at the pub on Wednesday, June 10,
at 7.30pm to discuss the latest situation.
Meanwhile, a campaign has been
launched to protect the Maypole pub in
Halesowen, which is also among the portfolio of 202 pubs that were bought by New
River Retail from Marston's in a £90 million deal. Customers hope to follow in the footsteps of the Haden Cross campaigners and a petition has been launched by the newly-formed Friends of the Maypole.

Options

Chairman of the Friends of the Maypole Geoff Dixon said: "We are aiming for 200 signatures, petitions will be at the pub for residents and pub goers to sign."

The developers say options for the site in Bassnage Road are still being reviewed and no firm decision had been made as yet.

New River Retail also say there is no threat to The Crown, in Simms Lane, Netherton, where landlord Robin Wall has spoken of his concern about competition from

erton, where landlord Robin Wall has spo-ken of his concern about competition from a proposed neighbouring convenience store. New River spokesman Martin Hughes said: "Where small convenience stores have been delivered alongside public houses, a community hub has been created which has meant that the pub can benefit from linked trips."

Flying the flag for Black Country Day



Black Country Mon at Dudley Castle with Black Country Day organisers Steve Edwards, Councillor Pete Lowe, Billy Spakemon and James Stevens

Bostin' superhero

IS it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's the Black Country's very own superhero.

Black Country Mon is launching this year's Black Country Festival, which is being held next month.

The mascot will be flying in tocommunity events at the monthlong festival created to celebrate Black Country Day on July 14.

Thousands of people got involved with the inaugural celebrations last year and now organisers are calling for people to get their Black Country flags on display in readiness for its return during July and August.

The black, white and red flag with its chain motif will be flying from landmark locations across the four Black Country boroughs, in-

CARE

Plans put forward to replace complex

PLANS to demolish an elderly care home and replace it with a new complex have taken a step forward after an application was submitted. The 66-bedroom development would replace Shenstone House in Halscowen Halesowen.

naiesowen.

A planning application has been submitted to Dudley Council and will be considered by officers in the coming weeks.

Developers say the new site will provide modern facilities for residents. A report with the plans states: "The proposed facility would offer those in need of care improved walls and belos of fear expendicities." quality and choice of accommodation.

NATURE

Opening date for RSPB visitor centre

THE RSPB's £400,000 visitor centre in

Sandwell Valley will open on July 16.
The centre, called Nature's Reach, is being built on the site of a building which was damaged in an arson attack

which was damaged in an arson attack five years ago.

When it opens, the site off Tanhouse Lane, West Bromwich, will feature a two-storey building that will not only be used by staff and visitors, but also vol-

unteers and community groups.

After the arson attack in 2010, a temporary building was the reserve's hub.

ATTRACTION

Jumping for joy as 15 jobs are created

AN INDOOR trampoline park will open in Stourbridge, creating 15 jobs, under plans.
Proposals for the complex, earmarked for a unit on Stourbridge Estate on Mill Race Lane have been submitted to Dudley

There will be connected trampolines

covering an area measuring 5,381 sq ft, as well as a foam pit area. There will be a training trampoline with harness and a basket ball slam dunk zone. The plans also include a viewing area and café bar. The centre would be open seven days a

week under the proposals lodged by L'& C Commercial Ltd.

INSIDE

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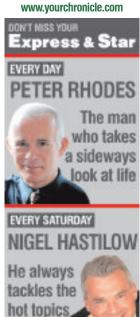
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CHRONICLE

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head-on!

• Rowley Regis

Oldbury

Blackheath

Jail for counterfeiter who used eBay

£250,000-a-vear fake clothing racket from the garage of his Stourbridge home has been jailed for two years. Ian Guy ignored repeated warnings to halt his massive counterfeit trade

in which goods were sold throughout

the world via the internet.

The 38-year-old's business Guy Tees, which ignored copyright on logos and images, cost major companies and a host of pop singers and bands over £500,000 in potential losses over two years by printing T-shirts and hoodies.

Wolverhampton Crown Court 2011 and again in July of the followon eBay between 2010 to 2012 topped

Mr Mark Jackson, prosecuting, explained: "The operation was professional, well organised and extremely sional, well organised and extremely profitable, selling worldwide."
Guy started a legitimate enterprise in 2005 but five years later was using state-of-the-art copying equipment in the garage of his John Corbett Drive home to churn out counterfeits.

Lawyers for companies hit by the

ing year but he carried on regardless while claiming child tax credit and never declaring his true earnings to the authorities, maintained Mr Jack-

A tip-off triggered an investigation A up-on triggered an investigation by Dudley Trading Standards culminating in a September 2012 raid on Guy's home that revealed counterfeiting equipment, hundreds of blank T-shirts, dozens of goods packaged for dispatch and tell-tale documents. Analysis of computers disclosed 2,500 files of trade mark images.

Mr Stephen Hamblett, defending, said: "This was not fraudulent fro the outset. He saw what others were

the outset. He saw what others were doing on eBay.

"He has brought ruin on his family. There are no winners in this case."

Guy admitted seven specimen charges including knowingly carrying on a business for the fraudulent production, sale and supply of counterfeit goods and their packaging.

Guy was given six months to pay £130,000 or face a further two years

in jail and pay £18,500 costs to Dud-

Pensioners are harassed by charity cash appeals

at their wits' end over the number of begging letters from charities that they receive - they have been sent so many they could wallpa-

per their lounge with them. Kindly Betty and Roy Griffin, from Dudley, give regularly to several charities but say they feel 'squeezed' to give more. They fear that vulnerable elderly people are becoming targets

for professional fundraisers.

Mrs Cooke, aged 79, said: "These people are vultures. They're trained in the best ways to achieve the right result. It's easy to get lured into giv-ing and you're left feeling awful if you don't."

you don't."
The couple were moved to speak out after reading about the tragic death of pensioner and Poppy seller Olive Cooke whose body was recovered from the Avon gorge in Bristol after she confided that she was being tormented by cold-callers from charities urging her to give more.

Inquest

An inquest heard that the 92-year-old war widow, who was one of Brit-ain's longest serving poppy sellers, had felt under pressure from the

number of requests she received from charities by phone and letter. Mr and Mrs Cooke say they know what that feels like. They changed their telephone number three times in order to avoid such calls.

Retired dinner lady Betty said:
"We got a block put on the line but
it only lasted three months. The last time we changed our number we went ex-directory.

"This is what Olive was having to put up with, phone calls day and night. It's like they're entitled to a

night. It's like they re entitled to a donation — it's pressure."

Sitting at the kitchen table in the couple's cosy semi-detached home, she showed the bizarre collection of gifts that are included in some of the letters, intended to guilt-trip re-



Harassed Dudley pensioner Betty Griffin with some of the begging letters from charities asking for money

cipients into forking out more cash. These include free sticky labels bearing their names and address, thermal gloves, rosary beads, scarves, religious texts, a crucifix and baby

The good-hearted pair have always given consideration to the charities they support, giving £5 monthly donations to the RSPCA and the Dogs Trust and making further one-off contributions during the year, mainly in response to crisis appeals, as well as sending money at Christmas on their six favourite charities.

Betty puts £1 a week in a box and divides it up at the end of the year

www.goodwillsmidlands.co.uk

between the Red Cross Salvation Army, Dogs Trust, Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity and the International Fund for Animal Wel-fare. Her husband, a retired metal worker, would like to give more of their modest income but Betty has

had to put her foot down.

She says the number of charity requests they have received has escalated in the past year, with a pile six

inches deep arriving every month.
"I could wallpaper our lounge
with them. Every other post brings
more," says the grandmother-of-two.
"I've now got to the point of not reading them.
"My husband gets upset when

I say 'bin it'. You've got to harden yourself. You feel mean sometimes, and I'm not that way at all. It hurts. "We've worked hard all our lives

and we feel we're being squeezed."

They choose to keep more control over their money by sending cheques rather than signing up for Direct Debit payments. But they fear for other elderly people, especially those with dementia.

Betty said: "These are things that

pensioners really are worried about, especially those living alone. Something needs to be done. The elderly do seem to be targeted with this sort of mail and even the Government can't seem to stop it."

1 hour

denture

repair

service

Man's arm was sliced in machete gang attack

A MAN'S arm was almost severed in an attack by a gang of eight men wielding bats and a machete in Quinton.

Police say the victim, a 24-year-old, is

lucky to be alive after the brutal assault and remains in hospital being treated for his serious wounds.

Police made an appeal for witnesses this week and said they believe it was a targeted attack.

The man was in a property in Rilstone

Road with a friend when a number of ve-

koad with a friend when a number of vehicles pulled up at around 6.15pm Tuesday (May 26).

Officers say he went outside to see what they wanted and was attacked by around eight men with bats and struck

around eight men with bats and struck with a machete, seriously injuring his right arm and back.

An appeal has been launched by police who want to speak to any witnesses to the vicious attack.

Ferocious

Detective Sergeant Reg Collett said: "This was a ferocious and violent attack and the man is lucky not to have been fatally injured. We believe this to be a targeted rather than random attack and

targeted rather than random attack and we have carried out house to house and CCTV inquiries in the area.

"I would urge anyone who witnessed the assault or saw any vehicles driving at speed in the area around the time of the attack to contact me – all calls will be treated in the stricter confidence." treated in the strictest confidence

Anyone with information is asked to call police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

MP in police plea to Home Secretary

THE front counter at Dudley Police Station has closed, leaving Dudley as the largest town in the country without a

largest town in the country without a police station open to the public.

More than 2,200 signed a petition calling for the controversial closure not to happen but West Midlands Police bosses decided to go ahead anyway as part of plans to save £3 million.

plans to save £3 million.

Ian Austin, MP for Dudley North, has written to Home Secretary Theresa May urging her to offer West Midlands Police a fairer share of funding to keep stations like Dudley open to the public. Front desks at Stourbridge, Hale-

sowen, Tipton and Wednesbury have already closed.

already closed.

Mr Austin said: "I'm very disappointed but I'm determined to keep fighting for the station."

Hear mandolins, quitars and banios

GUITARS, banjos and mandolins will feature in a concert by the Midlands Fretted Orchestra.

Zing Go The Strings will take place at St James's Church in Wollaston on Sat-urday at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £8 on the door r from Music Matters, Stourbridge.

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League left facing the final whistle after century

THE Dudley and Cradley Heath Football League could be forced to fold after more than 100 years due to a shortage of teams

The league had as many as 118 clubs in its 1980s heyday but only has eight teams signed up for next season.

Last season the league had 16

teams competing across two divisions. But bosses say only half that many have so far signed up for the 2015/16 season, starting in August.

General Secretary Bryan Sutton

General Secretary Bryan Sutton said: "We are hoping this will not be the end for the league altogether but you cannot play with less than eight teams. If one were to drop out that could be the end. Really we need 12 to be in a division. It would be very said if the league was forced to fold. It would be very sad."

The league was formed in 1910 as:

be very sad."

The league was formed in 1910 as the Cradley Heath and District Amateur Football League. Mr Sutton said in the 1980s up to 118 clubs were on its books. He said people staying out later on Saturday nights and dwindling sponsorship for teams could be behind the current struggle.

"Most response words to be the local."

"Most sponsors used to be the local pub but a lot of those pubs have gone," he said. "If you a ran a football team from a pub and it changed landlord and he was not interested you could go down the road to another and he would support you. There seems to be a lack of interest in Sunday football

Any teams interested in joining the league can contact Mr Sutton on (01384) 295651.

Former library set to become homes

STOURBRIDGE'S former town library and technical college will be converted into homes under plans poised to be given the go-ahead.

poised to be given the go-anead.

Developers have revealed their proposals for the Old Library, a Grade-II listed building, which stands on the corner of Hagley Road and Church Street, near the town's railway statistics.

It would see part of the ground floor, basement and the entire first and second floors converted into 23 apartments. Another part of the building is currently occupied by BBLB Corstorphine and Wright Architects.

Dudley Council planning officers have recommended the scheme is given the go-ahead. The final decision will be made at a meeting on Monday.

Temporary lights during rock work

IMPROVEMENTS are being carried out beside a road in Stourbridge. Temporary traffic lights will be installed in Worcester Road for five days from Monday so safety netting can be installed on a rock face.

Drink and drugs thug jailed for attack NEWS IN BRIEF 3

A VICIOUS thug high on a cocktail of drink and drugs has been jailed for eight years for beating an ent man to within an inch of his life in Stour-

bridge High Street.

Joshua Bernard attacked Callum Duncan after taking cocaine and drinking Champagne, brandy,

10 shots of sambuca and sharing Champagne, brandy, 10 shots of sambuca and sharing two jugs of vodka and Red Bull with his girlfriend.

Bernard was out celebrating his 21st birthday with his partner when they began to argue outside a pub in Stourbridge High Street at 2am on January 16. His girlfriend called out to Mr Duncan, who is in his 20s, for help and he began to cross the road to assist her but, before he could reach her, Bernard burst forward and felled him with a single punch.

The victim lay unconscious in the middle of the road while being punched, kicked and stamped on by the attacker until his girlfriend managed to pull him away. But as she tried to care for Mr Duncan, Bernard returned to kicked the defenceless victim in the head. A footprint was left on the victim's forehead. forehead.

The savage beating was witnessed by a monitor watching the CCTV feed, who alerted police. Bernard ran away as officers arrived but was caught after a chase.

Self-employed Mr Duncan, who had never met his attacker before, had his nose shattered and cheek-bone fractured. He remembers nothing of the inci-dent because of his injuries. The amount of drink

and drugs taken by Bernard meant he had no memory of the attack either. But when shown the CCTV

ory or the attack either. But when shown the CCTV
footage by police, he confessed: "That was sick – beyond disgusting."
Mr Harpreet Sandhu, defending at Wolverhampton Crown Court this week, said: "He is still revolted by what he did." Bernard from Gower Street,

All Saints, Wolverhampton, pleaded guilty to causing grievous bodily harm with intent and was jailed for eight years by Judge Nicholas Webb. Judge Webb told him: "When he was lying unconscious on the ground, you approached again and unleashed an almighty kick that moved his head a considerable distance. It was a dreadful thing to see and could so easily have killed him."

More than 130 jobs are axed in council's cull

MORE than 130 jobs will be axed by Dudley Council in a bid to cut costs.

The council is looking to make 134 voluntary and two compulsory redundancies in 2015/16. Council leaders said they had worked to keep compulsory redundancies to a minimum.

It follows the loss of more than 700 posts

during the previous four years.

The budget proposals for 2015/16 have included a shake-up of Dudley youth services to save £200,000. Burial fees have also been

to save £200,000. Burlar lees have also been increased in a move, expected to bring in £520,000 in the next three years.

Other cost-cutting proposals include plans to turn off some street lights after midnight, saving £100,000 by 2018.

But proposals to axe free transport for children when the proposals to axe free transport for children when the proposals in the proposals to axe free transport for children when the proposals in the proposals in the proposals of the proposals

dren with special needs in Dudley were shelved following objections from concerned parents. Council tax and council home rents have been frozen along with stall fees on Dudley

The council needs to make savings of £22.1 million during the current financial year, rising to £24.3m in 2016/17 and £26.3million in

Gap

But this will still leave a further gap of £32.7m which will need to be addressed by 2017/18.

Council leader Councillor Pete Lowe said:

Council leader Councillor Pete Lowe said:
"Dudley has been impacted significantly as a
result of national government cuts and as a result we have authorised 134 voluntary redundancies and two compulsory redundancies.
"We will continue to keep compulsory redundancies at a minimum – they will and be our
last resort whilst continuing to advocate for a
fair funding deal for Dudley and local government."

As part of a shake-up of the youth services As part of a shake-up of the youth services in the borough, 27 youth workers have left through voluntary redundancy and six people have been redeployed to other roles within the authority. The hours covered by the staff equate to six full-time roles.

Voluntary groups will be drafted in to help run some of the activities at the borough's seven youth centres. It will cost parents more to send children to Astey Burf Outdoor Adventure Centre in Worcestershire.

The council has slashed the number of directions the staff of the staff of

The council has slashed the number of director and assistant director posts from 22 to 11

D-reem date with Joey is cut short



Devoted fan Shanna Martin, from Worcestershire, takes a selfie with Joey Essex at the Merry Hill Centre

HE readily admits he's not the HE readily admits he's not the sharpest tool in the box but that didn't stop more than 500 fans turning out to meet reality TV star Joey Essex. The 24-year-old brought a touch of Essex to the Black Country for a book signing at Waterstones in Merry Hill.

He posed for pictures with fans who queued for almost five hours to meet the TOWIE star at the Brierley Hill centre – although many were disappointed when

many were disappointed when

Joey, who has his own series Educating Joey Essex, which sees the celebrity travelling the world to fill gaps in his knowledge, waved at the crowd before signing cooks and posing with force.

copies and posing with fans.
Joey superfan Shanna Martin,
aged 16, said: "I ran straight up

he left after less than two hours.
Fans had queued from as early saying?' and he said it straight as 7am on Friday to meet Joey and get signed copies of his latest book, The Book of You (and Me).

Joey, who has his own series Reem', includes doodle pages.

He only made it halfway through the queue before he had to leave. Alex Mason, of Waterstones, said: "Joey was here until just after 1pm but had to end the signing to attend other signings and a television appearance." and a television appearance

Nations unite for play at museum

ACTORS from Jamaica, Poland, India and Spain are uniting in a play at the Black Country Living Museum.

The White Shining Land by Black Country playwright David Calcutt tells the story of a group of travellers crossing an ocean, heading for a 'promised land' of their dreams, who tell stories about their homelands

Mr Calcutt said: "We are working with a cast of community actors. Some are migrants who have come to

Some are migrants who have come to the Midlands."

The play will be performed on Sat urday at 12.30pm and 2.30pm.

Two in custody facing charges

TWO men have appeared in court charged with drug and gun crimes.

Mohammed Ali, aged 28, and Ravinder Sohal, 25, were arrested in Hale sowen last week. Both men appeare before Dudley magistrates on Friday Ali, of no fixed address, is charged with the charge of the control of the co All, of no inxed address, is charged with possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life and possession with intent to supply class A drugs. Sohal, of Cemetery Road, Smethwick, is also charged with the drugs offence.

Both have been remanded in custody and will appear at Wolverhampton Crown Court on August 21.

Ten thousand use care centre

MORE than 10,000 patients have been through the doors of Dudley's new urgent care centre since it opened three months ago, new figures show.

The centre, designed to take the pressure off Russell Hall Hospital's busy A&E department, replaced the walk-in centre at Holly Hall.

Chiefs estimate that almost 1,500

of the patients seen at the new centre would have previously turned up at A&E. Patients are assessed by a nurse

Factory team's charity cycling trip to seaside

CYCLISTS from a Dudley shop fitting and design business is taking part in a 134-mile charity cycle ride.

The Alan Nuttall employees will be cycling from their factory in Hall Street to Weston-super-Mare on June 27 to raise funds for Brain Tumour Research and Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham.

The charities were chosen by two colleagues who have been diagnosed with cancer and are undergoing treat

Race for Life events

WOMEN have until Monday to regis-ter for the Race for Life at West Park in Wolverhampton. The 5k Cancer Research UK event is on Wednesday. June 10, at 7pm. To sign up visit www raceforlife.org or call 0300 123 0770. Similar events are at Himley Hall on July 12 at 10.30am and 2.30pm.



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Halesowen Chronicle

THE BEST OF

SADLY, we will never know the answer to the most intriguing question in Ireland's referendum on gay marriage how would the clergy of Craggy Island have voted? I suspect Father Ted would have been a No, Jack would have been a Yes and Dougal would have gone to the police station instead of the polling station.

SAME-sex marriage in Ireland came about not merely through lobbying by gays but on the secret votes of mil-lions of heterosexuals who have nothing but goodwill towards the gay community. If nothing else the Irish referen-dum should provide food for thought for those gays who like to convince themselves that everybody hates them. On this showing, two-thirds of the population loves them.

ONE of the many great public services performed by this column was to draw your attention to Car Share (BBC1), the brilliant Peter Kay comedy based on the blissfully



simple idea of a supermarket manager giving a member of his staff a lift to work each day. his staff a lift to work each day. Six episodes were a delight and what a joy it was to see both Kay and his co-star Sian Gibson occasionally losing it in fits of laughter. But now there is talk of a second series. Oh, beware The secret of great comedy is to leave the punters wanting more.

That is what John Cleese and Connie Booth wisely did

when they ended Fawlty Towers after just 13 episodes. At the other end of the scale was Last of the Summer Wine which just went on and on

IT is hard to question the accepted theory of evolution without being cast as a religious nut. But how many of us rational atheists were fascinated by the display of insect-eating plants at Chelsea Flower Show? The best-known of these has trigger-hairs on its jaws. It ignores an insect touching one of the hairs once. But at the second touch, the jaws snap close. So what we have here is a glore that have here to some the second touch the second touch the second touch the second touch the second to the second touch the second touch the second to the second touch the second to the second touch the second to the second touch the se plant that knows how to count. Using Darwin's theory of natural selection and survival of the fittest, how on earth did the Venus fly trap evolve?

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

HS2 cost? Don't ask us says the Government

HS2 bosses have admitted they do not know how much the rail line will cost as they are still using estimates from four years ago.

Campaigners asked chiefs whether the £50bn cost quoted in 2011 had changed.

The response said they 'do not hold this information' and that there is 'no business need' for it. But protesters fear the figure is rocketing and say the public have a right to know how much the line By Adam Burling

current price tag of HS2 is. Surely the DfT must know the answer to this most basic of questions? In their own PR terms it's obviously

better for Government and

better for Government and HS2 Ltd to keep using the lower 2011 prices figure, a fact rarely, if ever, explained in coverage of the scheme."

Stop HS2 campaign manager Joe Rukin said: "You would have thought that the Government might think that the effect of inflation, especially when construction wage inflation was four times that of average wages and three times general in-

times that of average wages and three times general in-flation last year, is impor-tant when they started with a cost of £32bn in 2010 and are already up to £50bn.

are already up to £50bn.
"The Government's own
figures for public sector construction show that the cost
of contracts went up by 13
per cent between 2011 and
2014, but they are choosing
not to apply this fact to the
cost of HS2, because it will
damage the case for their
vanity project."

from Birmingham to Lon-

from Birmingham to London will eventually cost.
Multi-million-pound contracts are now up for grabs to build the line, which will cut through swathes of the Staffordshire countryside.
Campaign group Stop HS2 says rising wages in the construction sector will see the total cost increase even

the total cost increase even

Chiltern councillor Seb Berry submitted a freedom of information request asking for the figures.

Inflation

But HS2 Ltd replied saying: "We do not hold this information" and the Department for Transport said: "I am writing to advise you that following a thorough search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information are reported is have established that the in-formation you requested is not held by this department because we have no business need to estimate the cost of HS2 in 2015 prices." Councillor Berry said: "It beggars belief that minis-ters don't know what the

Sister's gesture is a cut above



Brave move - Emily Morris, front, and big sister Lauren

opecia has taken her ban-dana off for the first time in six years after her big sister shaved her head in solidar-

Emily Morris from Hale-sowen has spent nearly half her life hiding her thinning hair after she was diagnosed with alopecia in 2007.

But now, thanks to her big sister, Lauren, aged 16 – who shaved off her long brown locks to raise money in memory of their mother – she's found the courage to step out in public without her bandana.

Emily, 14, said: "Seeing Lauren without any hair made me realise that I had nothing to be ashamed of and gave me enough strength to take it off.

"I promised her that if she shaved her hair off I would go to school without my bandana.'

Since her diagnosis in 2007, Emily has struggled to feel accepted by other girls her age as so many have long hair.

Their mother Denise died of breast cancer in 2007. So far the charitable act has raised more than £1,500. The money will be going to the Little Princess Trust.

Football pitch huge fee rise is scrapped

A CONTROVERSIAL decision to hike fees for football pitch hire in Dudley borough by £200 is set to be

borough by £200 is set to be scrapped.

Coaches and players were angered when councillors voted to increase pitch hire costs by up to 40 per cent for the 2015/16 season.

the 2015/16 season.
Senior adult teams were
set to see fees rise from just
over £500 per year to around
£710 under the policy which
was ratified as part of the
authority's annual budget.
But now Dudley Council
has revised its charges for
pitch hire. The fee for a season's hire is to be set at £518
a much smaller increase.

- a much smaller increase

- a much smaller increase.
Conservative opposition
leader on the council, Councillor Patrick Harley helps
run High Acres Football
Club in the Dudley and Cradley Heath Football League. dley Heath Football League. He said: "Common sense has prevailed. It would have been lunacy and would have put teams out of existence to have had a 40 percent rise in fees. I think a two percent wise result can be an early Than."

fees. I think a two percent rise people can accept. They accept fees will inevitably rise to some extent. "People will pay more if they have better facilities. The council is right, pitch fees are higher elsewhere, but the quality of the pitches is also much, much better. They have neglected the fields here. We are working in the dark ages when it comes to sport in Dudley." The fees for 2015/16 are set to be rubber-stamped on Monday.



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Councillors more aware of dementia

mentia friendly town by pledging to support people with the condition.

The Dementia Friends initiative has been set up by the Alzheimers Society to increase awareness of the symptoms and how to help suffers.

symptoms and how to help suffers.
Council leader Councillor Pete
Lowe, deputy leader Councillor Judy
Foster, chief executive Sarah Norman
are among those to become 'Dementia Friends'. They will look at ways
to improve the town to make is more
accessible for sufferers.
Councillor Lowe said: "As a commuty council we recognise our duty to

nity council, we recognise our duty to respond to the needs of residents and are delighted to support this national campaign to help the increasing num-bers of residents affected by dementia.

bers of residents affected by dementia.
"If we all signed up to become a
Dementia Friend then the borough
would strengthen its reputation as a
friendly, welcoming place in which to
live and work. We all know someone
who is either living with the condition or caring for someone in need. By
becoming aware of the symptoms of
dementia we can help more and more
people continue to play an active and
fulfilling part in their community."
Dudley's dementia gateways staged

Dudley's dementia gateways staged a host of activities as part of national Dementia Awareness Week. Visit www.dementiafriends.org.uk or www.alzheimers.org.uk

Seconds out for the sounds of Summer

YOUNG Australian band 5 Seconds of Summer have sold out both of their gigs at Birmingham Barclaycard Arena tomorrow night (Friday) and Sat-

urday.

The four-piece outfit's self-titled debut album was released a year ago and has reached no1 in 11 countries.

5SOC were formed in Sydney in 2011.

Plans for two more care homes: in borough are put 'on hold'

Classy glass award winners at festival



Vic Bamforth from Stourbridge with examples of his work on show at the international glass festival

NEW generation of artists have been showcasing their skills in contemporary glass.

The British Glass Biennale draws entries from around the world to exhibit during the International Festival of Glass that was held in Stourbridge's well known Glass Quarter.

The International Festival of Glass was at venues across the area last weekend.

Two artists from the Black Country were among 77 to be recognised as part of the biennale held at the Ruskin Glass Centre, Wollaston Road, Amblecote. Main award winner, scoop-

ing the £3,000 British Glass Biennale prize, was Pembrokeshire artist Ashraf Hanna, who created two pieces in kiln-formed glass

Ex-Wolverhampton University tudent Elliot Walker, 27, was another to win support, worth £3,000, after succes with Still Life with Lime.

care centres for older residents have been put on on hold.

A deal had been struck between care developer Midland Heart and

Dudley Council to build five extra care housing facilities by 2015.

But only three have been built — on the Russells Hall estate in Dudley, at Coseley and in Cradley. Further schemes are under review. Midland Heart spokesman Richard Brooker said: "The plan is for five extra care facilities, however the project is currently 'on-hold'. This is so that we can jointly review both the level of demand and necessary funding availability."

Sary funding availability."

Extra care housing is designed for people to live independently in their own homes while receiving tailored care and health services

Dudley Council introduced extra care housing as it sought to close exist-ing care homes, a plan which sparked controversy.

Petition

More than 5,000 people signed a petition which led to council chiefs overturning plans to close New Brad-ley Hall in Kingswinford. The home is now run by a third party, Black Country Housing Group. But other homes, in Pensnett and Amblecote, did close.

The former Cradley High School site, near Homer Hill Park, was demolished with the land being used to build the third centre. Called Lime Gardens, the £16 million centre which has more

than 100 apartments, opened its doors in February. Dudley Council housing chief, Coun-cillor Gaye Partridge, said: "We intend to have an additional two extra care housing developments in the bor-ough but are unable to give a times-cale on this, as we first must identify sites which could be suitable for such

Walkway bid to boost trade

BRIERLEY Hill town centre is in for a boost with a new walkway linking it to Merry Hill and The Waterfront.

Council bosses want to increase vis-

Council bosses want to increase visitor numbers and help breathe new life into the town centre, which has fallen on hard times in recent years. They are now drawing up regeneration plans to change the fortunes of the town with its shops also earmarked for a revamp.

A new walkway between the High Street and Merry Hill is among the proposals. It would also link up with The Waterfront complex to make it easier for shoppers to get around the three sites. Shops and premises in the High Street would also be renovated under the plans being considered by Dudley Council. Dudley Council. Ward councillor Rachel Harris said

"It's early days but I am really pleased that the council is not just looking at Dudley town centre but also Brierley



IN MY VIEW

Does Brum really rank as hotspot to tourists?

WELL fancy that, I never knew I was so well travelled. But according to top travel publication the Rough Guide, I have seen 20 per cent of the world's greatest places

publication the Rough Guide, have seen 20 per cent of the world's greatest places to visit. The popular travel guide has published its list of the 10 greatest cities in the world, and I've been to two of them. And I suspect that everybody reading this will have been to at least one. Now, I must confess I have never been to Johannesburg. Or Wellington in New Zealand, although it looks jolly nice in the pictures. Salta in Argentina? Sorry, nope.But hey, I've been to Malaga, and with its charming marble streets, pleasant climate, and superb art galleries, I would have no qualms about recommending it. And then we come to the only British entry on the list – Birmingham. Now I'm not one of those sneering Brummie bashers, who take great pleasure in running down Britain's second city at every possible opportunity. I don't think it is any better or any worse than most major cíties, and there are some decent shops and restaurants. But does it really warrant a place, ahead of Winchester, Salisbury, or even Worcester? Don't Oxford, Truro or York deserve a mention? I only go there a handful of times a year, and I only live a 20-minute train ride away. So why would an international tourist want to visit Brummagem?

Well according to the Rough Guide, food stalls and vintage shops are springing up all over Digbeth, and "with New Street station reopening in 2015 after a much-needed renovation, now is the time to visit Birmingham."

So there we have it. Takeaways, second-hand shops and a new railway station. Forgive me, but I still think I prefer

ond-hand shops and a new railway station. Forgive me, but I still think I prefer Florence.

00000

FIFA chief Sepp Blatter always used to go on about the worldwide "football fam-ily." It's just a shame he never told us that the family was The Sopranos.

00000

MIND you, I would have far more confidence in the US-based investigation into alleged corruption at Fifa if the FBI man who keeps appearing on television knew the name of the sport he was probing. It's football, okay? Nobody has called it soc-cer since about 1978.

00000

A COUNCILLOR in Brierley Hill has said "Now that the regeneration of Dudley town centre is nearing an end, the council is turning its attention to other town centres."

town centres."
As far as I can see, the roof of the market has changed colour, and a bit of the obligatory block paving. But nothing significant in the way of new shops. Remember shops, those places you used to go to buy stuff? Some people's definition of regeneration is clearly different to mine.





The Queen and Del Boy at Wolverhampton races



Black Country life in the picture at gallery

Images of the area are in the spotlight at an exhibition in Wolverhampton. KIMBERLEY CRAYTON-BROWN reports

CHEERING on Wolves, enjoying a day at the races, or lining up to see the legendary Robert Plant - people from the Black Country could find their faces among hundreds in an exhibition celebrating the region.

Over the course of four years Magover the course of four years Mag-num photographer Martin Parr travelled throughout Wolverhampton, Walsall, Dudley and Sandwell, camera in hand documenting the everyday lives of peo-

ple throughout the area.

Images of football fans at Molineux, ravers at the Wolverhampton Civic Hall and shop and factory workers are on display alongside wedding guests and racegoers. They are all part of the Black Country Stories exhibition, which opened at the city's art gallery last Saturday.

Pigeon

An entire wall at Wolverhampton Art Gal-

An entire wall at Wolverhampton Art Gal-lery is covered with hundreds of images taken by the award-winning photographer, and gal-lery staff are encouraging people to come along and see if they make an appearance. The image wall will form part of the exhi-bition alongside larger prints of Parr's work especially selected from the Black Country Stories archive, as well as 400 snapshots, oral histories and four documentary films made by Parr

The films feature Willenhall pensioners on The films feature Willenhall pensioners on a Turkey and Tinsel coach trip to Weston-super-Mare, glassmakers in Stourbridge, a Moxley pigeon breeder who goes to Mongolia, and Teddy Gray's famous sweet factory.

Parr said: "I am looking forward to presenting back, to both Wolverhampton and the wider Black Country, the fruits of my four-year journey around this unique area. Despite



Staff putting together the wall of photos at Wolverhampton Art Gallery

the poor local economy, the spirit and deter-

the poor local economy, the spirit and determination of the community comes shining through."

At the beginning of the project, commissioned in 2010 by West Bromwich-based community arts charity Multistory, Parr said he felt he knew Britain quite well, but the Black Country was a blind spot.

In a blog detailing the project, he says: "I have either visited or photographed in most

In a blog detaining the project, ne says: In we either visited or photographed in most major cities, from Plymouth to Wick in the far north of Scotland. I do have my blind spots and one was the Black Country, despite driving past this on the M6 on my journeys north on many occasions. So when Emma Chetcuti from Multistory contacted me to ask if I might be interested in doing a photographic commis-sion, in the borough of Sandwell, I could not

say yes fast enough.

"With its famous industrial past, there was

going to be an inevitable sense of decline in the area, but what I had not counted on was the revitalisation that the many immigrant groups had brought to the area. There are active communities from many parts of the world: India Pakistan of course, and the inevitable recent influx of Poles but also Somalis, West Indians

and many others.
"It is this vital mix that we decided to focus on and, at the same time, looking for examples of traditional Black Country life that were in good health. As the lid was slowly eased open, we realised the power of the material that we

were unearthing.
"This is a celebration of your community."
The 62-year-old, who was born in Surrey
and now lives in Bristol, said his budding interest in photography when he was a teen-ager was encouraged by his grandfather, also a keen amateur photographer. Starting the

Black Country Stories project in Sandwell in 2010, Parr spent time at West Bromwich market, the town's St George's Day parade, and snapped Albion fans on a match day.

Staff at Mad O'Rourke's Pie factory in Tipton and its legendary 'Desperate Dan' cow pie also featured, along with youngsters pictured playing street games at the Black Country Living Museum, and a series of pictures at the Guru Nanak Gurdwara in Smethwick during the annual Vaisakhi festival.

Guru Nanak Gurdwara in Smethwick during the annual Vaisakhi festival.

During 2011 and 2012 he visited Wolverhampton, capturing pictures inside and outside Molineux of the rollercoaster of emotions expressed by fanatical football fans.

Colourful diamond jubilee celebrations to mark the 60th anniversary of the accession of Queen Elizabeth II in 2012 showed churches, cricket clubs and neighbours all join together in celebrations, while nightlife was captured at the Slade Rooms and the Quest reunion at the Civic Hall. Other images featured staff at Marstons Brewery, youngsters at Royal Wol-Marstons Brewery, youngsters at Royal Wol-verhampton School, in Penn Road, and shop-pers inside Wulfrun Shopping Centre.

Acclaimed

Dudley had its turn in 2013, including mo-

Dudiey had its turn in 2013, including moments at Bathams Brewery in Brierley Hill, Dudley Zoo, families enjoying Netherton Park fun day and the sea cadets.

Marguerite Nugent, Wolverhampton Art Gallery's senior curator, said: "Martin Parr is an internationally acclaimed documentary between the sea between the control of the control o photographer so to have his work here and for that work to be about local people is a real

for that work to be about local people is a real coup.

"We hope people, who might not always visit, will come into the gallery to have a look to see if an image of themselves or anyone they know is in the exhibition. It really is a fascinating glimpse of Wolverhampton and the surrounding Black Country."

Black Country Stories is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, The New Art Gallery Walsall, Sandwell Council and Arts Council England, and is on display at the Lichfield Street gallery until August 22.

For more information go to www.wolverhamptonart.org.uk/visit/wolves/

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unity and progress, notding all of the richness of being a diverse community with values of respect, harmony and mutual flourishing.

Graham Usher, Bishop of Dudley; lan Austin, MP Dudley North; Andy Gray, Chief Officer, Dudley Council for Voluntary Service; Len Lenihan, Chairman, needed income for the town's hard pressed traders, had a negative impact finding a speedy and amicable solution, on community cohesion, and had an emotional impact upon many different people in our diverse community.

We urge people not to come and demonstrate, disrupting the town, a chieved for all. In this way Dudley tarnishing its image and dividing its

should set sights high

I FEEL I have to agree with J Brodie when he/she speaks of Albion coach Tony Pulis as showing a 'distinct lack of class' in wanting to sign Bakary Sako, as I'm sure he could look for a better player with Premier League experience.

I would be surprised if

I would be surprised a Bakary would wish to go to 'Sandwell Borough', as the Hawthorns has been referred to. It was stated that Wolverhampton had a 'the training hatter play. better stadium, better play-

ers and better stadium, better players and better supporters.

J Brodie tips us off that they, 'The Wolves', have a fine goal-keeper in Carl Ikeme, and a future England de-fender in Danny Batth, which begs me to ask the question 'why did the which begs me to ask the question 'why did the Wolves not even make the play-offs'? If and when they do make it to the Premiership, perhaps they could sign Peter Odemwingie, and then there of the second of the se then they may give us a five-goal thrashing.

T MORGAN

Albion boss **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** Impatient

Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street olverhampton, WV1 1ES

dudley.chrons@

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Why don't we care about our churches?

HOW sad it is that I read in your paper that yet another church is to be demolished, the second around Cradley Heath in recent years.

How sad that whilst we are building massive mosques like the one in Windmill Lane, Smethwick churches which represent our history going back hundreds of years are de-molished.

molished.

There has been a huge fuss over the future of Dudley Hippodrome, which has nowhere near the history or the age of St Luke's, but where were the protesters? Where was the National Lottery? It seems they always prefer to spend their huge funds on some weird scheme rather than save our national heritage. The amount this church needed for repairs would be small to them.

Every day I see stories about people fighting to save local pubs or schools. If a church that goes back over 150 years is not national heritage, what is? Countries like Greece, France, Cyprus and Bulgaria look on their churches as national heritage and take care of them for the nation.

We need to take a serious look at what we are losing. This is our history — once it's gone it's gone forever.

H CAMWELL Oldbury

pensioners are so rude

IN response to M Hislop and the unnamed correspondent moaning about bus drivers not letting pensioners board before 9:30am.

Everybody knows that the start time for passes is 9:30am, not 9:19am, not 9:25am, but 9:30am. Pensioners seem to think they travel for free, they don't. The bus companies

get paid to carry them and if they are let on before they

can scan their pass, the bus company won't get paid. Is it too much to ask that pensioners — who have more time to spend — wait until the correct time?

Or do they really think they should be able to flaunt the rules and do as they

please?

The rudest people using the vilest language that I encounter on a daily basis are pensioners when they are told they are too early

to ride.
So is it any surprise they aren't let on?

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Glitzy night as beauty pageant pair sparkle

IT was a night of glitz and glamour – and dresses made of old book pages - as the of old book pages – as the search for Miss and Mr Black Country came to an end. Wombourne's Jade Secker was announced as the new Miss Black

Country, taking over from Shelley-Marie Sumner, of Walsall.

ley-Marie Summer, of Walsall.
And while there was no actual crown for the new Mr Black Country, but a white silk sash instead, West Bromwich's James Machin was 'over the moon' with his win.
For the contestants, the final at Dudley's Castle Village Hotel was the end of months of hard work in their cuest to claim the crown. The final

end of months of hard work in their quest to claim the crown. The final stop of the journey for most, it is just the beginning for the winners who now go on to the national final in Au-gust in the hope of becoming Miss or Mr England.

From initial applications and inter-From initial applications and inter-views, through to fundraising for pag-eant charity 'Beauty with a Purpose' and boot camps, preparation for the Black Country final, run by the West Midlands branch of Miss England, involved far more than make-up and

moved far more than make-up and evening gowns.

Miss Secker, who works as a fund-raising officer at The Haven Wolverhampton, said of all of the tasks leading up to the final the sport round was her toughest challenge. Including was her toughest challenge. Including a Zumba class and a fitness boot camp, the 23-year-old said it had been a lot more difficult than she expected: "I thought I was quite fit but that was eye-opening."

Creating a recycled outfit to model or the catwalk in the eco round had been more her speed, with her design made up of old book pages and CDs inspired by a Valentine's Day window display. Miss Secker put her name down for the pageant after speaking



Jade Secker, wearing her eco dress





Mark Rhodes with James Machin

to organisers at a show, and said: "It is just one of those things I thought I would enter but didn't really think it

would enter but dight result think it would amount to anything." The new Mr Black Country is also excited for the year ahead: "Hope-fully by the end of the year I will have served well for the Black Country."



On this year's judging panel was Darlaston's own TV star Mark Rhodes. He was joined by previous Miss des. He was joined by previous Miss Black Country winner Shelley-Marie Sumner, Miss Wales 1995 and Miss UK 1996 Rachael Butler, Miss Eng-land 2013 Kirsty Heslewood, and Hy-brid Makeup's Leah Heaven.

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GEORGE Osborne will not force the West Midlands to have an elected mayor - but he left council leaders in no doubt it is what he wants them to do.

them to do.
Control over billions of pounds
worth of budgets for everything from
transport to health is being offered to
cities and surrounding areas under a
radical programme of devolution.
And the Tory Chancellor wants the
West Midlands to become an 'engine
for growth.

It is his new buzz phrase and appears to have replaced 'long term economic plan' which we heard in the answer to every single question in the run up to the General Election.

Democracy

Accompanied by Tory grandee Lord Heseltine, who has been working on ways to spread growth to the English regions, Mr Osborne met with the leaders of the seven councils of the West Midlands at Birmingham Science

Park.
They have been trying since last year to settle on a deal to create a West Midlands Combined Authority – something where they can work together on transport, skills, regeneration and health – and recently took a big step forward when Coventry's controlling Labour group voted to sign up while Solihull's leader has indicated his support too.

port too.

The Chancellor said he was not expecting the authority to be created 'overnight'. And after what has become a trademark element of a visit by



Trademark hard hat for visit to Icentrum building in Birmingham

Mr Osborne - a hard hat tour a hi-vis

Mr Osborne – a hard hat tour a hi-vis vest – he said that he believed a mayor was the best solution, even though he accepted others may disagree.

"Other major Western countries have found the best way of doing that has been an elected mayor," he said.

"That's what London chose to have and Greater Manchester is choosing to have. If you want the full model you need some accountability and democracy.

"The mayor model works best but "The mayor model works best but if local people don't want to go there they don't have to. "The more powers we devolve the more there has to be some accountability. This is the people's money and the people should have the final say."

In a speech this week he said: "But let us take these first steps. At the election last month the people of the Midlands made a decisive choice. You

Midlands made a decisive choice. You chose a government that will back business large and small. You chose a government that will boost skills, you chose a government that backs working people. You put your trust in us and we will repay that trust and deliver for the working people of the

deliver to the word Midlands.

"We will build that Midlands engine. We are one nation and we have a plan to back you at every stage of

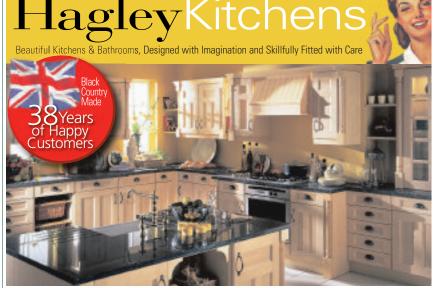
The Chancellor said the UK had one of the most centralised systems of political power of any major countries of the state of the state

or pointeat power of any major country in the world'.

He said: "And I think that model of trying to run everything in our country from the centre of London is broken. It's made people feel remote from the decisions that affect their lives.

"And one of the things I want to see over the course of this parliament, over the next five years is a radical shift of power away from Whitehall and back into the hands of local peo-

"You, the people who live and work in the Midlands know far better than I do or any politician based in West-minster what's right for your area."



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"They gave us our perfect kitchen, a great local company." Sandra Donnelly, Kinaswinford

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Still enjoying those Good Vibrations

Beach Boys, Barclaycard Arena

THE sun may not be shining too much at the moment but I still managed to catch that summer feeling on a night out in Birmingham, which ended on a numbrical pate.

out in Birmingham, which ended on a surprise note.

Heading to the Barclaycard Arena in the landlocked Midlands I turned the clock back and enjoyed views of the waves on a huge screen while listening to some of those great surfing songs.

Yes you guessed it, all the old classics from the Beach Boys. The audience may have had an average of around 55 but they still knew how to

All the favourites were there Good All the lavourness were there dood Vibrations, California Dreaming, Surf-ing USA, Wouldn't It Be Nice, Help Me Ronda, to name but a few.

Yes it may be just the two originals the gravelly-voiced Mike Love and key-board player and singer Bruce Johnson but the voices harmonised well thanks to the rest of the band who could ALL sing. And they paid tribute to the late Carl Wilson as he appeared

to the late Carl Wilson as he appeared on a large screen behind them singing God Only Knows The surprise note? That came with the encore when the special guest was our very own Roy Wood who came on to sing Fire Brigade. What a way to set the night alight.

Ferry still **REVIEWS** firing after 45 years

Bryan Ferry Symphony Hall, Birmingham

YOU have to hand it to Bryan Ferry after 45 years of performing he is probably more elegant on stage now than he has ever been.

However, as he approaches 70 he is showing signs of slowing down. He didn't stray far from his mic stand throughout the show, except to play the keyboard.

except to play the keyboard. His current stage show, touring on the back of his new album Avonmore, is what you expect from the Lord of Lounge Lizards, populated by class musicians and sophisticated elegant women who are able to sashay across the stage while playing their respective instruments. tive instruments.

tive instruments.

Ferry have never had the strongest of voices, his tones are subtle and liquid and at times during the early part of the concert at least he was drowned out by a themping hose line.

thumping bass line.

He did however, give a good range of his work from the classics of his Roxy Music days right up to his latest album

Danny Farragher



Arena packed for Paul McCartney concert

Superstar marathon left all fans amazed

Paul McCartney,

Barclaycard Arena
HOW many artists can have
four hours of their songs
played and virtually everyone in the audience knows

one in the audience knows every word?
Paul McCartney is the answer. The pre-show build-up on the video screens as his Out There tour reached Birmingham's Barclaycard Arena featured an hour of McCartney's music performed by other artists and then he played for nearly three hours, including two encores and a standing ovation, with no repetition.
There was something for

There was something for

Beatles fans, Eight Days A Week, Back In the USSR and I Saw Her Standing There, Wings fans got High, High, High, Maybe I'm Amazed, which McCartney dedicated to his late wife

McCartney's voice was on good form. He continually showed his musical virtuosity, playing bass, lead guitar, ukulele and piano and never

uktuele and piano and never showed any sign of tiring. Catch him when you can as he is a true superstar who retains a down-to-earth ap-proach and has a great rap-port with fans.

It's still a good year for Costello

Elvis Costello Symphony Hall IT must be at least seven years since I last saw Elvis Costello at the same venue, the impressive Symphony Hall in Birmingham Had his slightly quirky voice changed in all that time? Not a bit of it.

An army of fans turned out to listen to all those favourites Oliver's Army, Good Year for the Roses, which he sang with his brother Ronan MacManus, Watching the Detectives, Girls Talk, and more. With his trademark hat

With his trademark nat and blue suit the singer songwriter, who enjoyed chart success in the 70s with The Attractions, took us through his musical journey, speaking at length about his dad who was a well-known musician.

about his dad who was a well-known musician.

He also poured scorn on 'talent' programmes like X factor and the miming on. Top of the Pops,
Seven years on and I still find him quite addictive.
The show is called Detour and it would be worth making that detour to catch him on his UK tour. on his UK tour. Sue Attwater



Les is more, as karate club marks 30th



Standing, from left, instructors Steve Knight, Les Knight, a black belt for 35 years and Gary Ray, at the club

HE started out as a karate kid and now Les Knight is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the martial arts club he founded in the Black Country.

Les was just 11 when he was awarded a black belt back in 1980 – making him one of the youngest in the country to achieve the feat at the time.

Having taken up the sport since the age of five, he has dedicated most of his life to the sport. And when he was just 17 he opened his own club – teaching karate to people of all ages – from five to 50.

Now Tividale Shotokan Karate Club Now Tividale Shotokan Karate Club is celebrating its 30th anniversary and is, quite literally, going from strength to strength. Les, who lives in Tipton, is chief instructor at the club, which he formed in 1985.

"I actually started out when I was just five," said 47-year-old Les, who works at Vogue UK in Willenhall. My



dad worked with my first instructor and he told me to go along to one of his sessions and I was instantly hooked. I went along to Tipton Shotokan which used to be held at St Mark's Church

Hall in Ocker Hill and got my hands on my black belt six years later." He was so keen on karate that at the first opportunity he set up his own

club. His brother Steve, 33, of Tipton and friend Gary Ray, 43, of Cradley Heath, have also been involved with the club since a young age.

To celebrate the anniversary Les was joined by members of the Tividale club to recreate a photo of himself, which featured in the Express & Star in 1980 celebrating his black belt achievement. achievement.

"It was great to recreate that photo. Sadly I have not seen the Manson brothers, who feature in the original picture, for 20 years."

The club teaches around 80 students each week and Les admits to being thrilled when members achieve the black belt.

The club runs Monday and Wednesday evenings between 6pm and 7.30pm with extra training sessions on Satur-days when advertised at Holy Cross Church, Ashleigh Road, Tividale.



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Picture



Fresh look with kitchen makeover

An eye-catching hob and hood



A fabulous makeover for your home's kitchen

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

DOES your kitchen need attention?

who would love to update their kitchen but can't

to update their kitchen but can't stand the thought of the mess and upheaval that this would surely entail, there is another solution.

Cherry Kitchen Makeovers offer exactly what their name suggests — a complete kitchen makeover with less mess and less disruption than you normally que with a new than you normally get with a new replacement kitchen.

replacement kitchen. You retain your existing cabinets and chose from a simple door change to a complete makeover, which is still normally half the price of a full replacement kitchen and all covered by a Consumer Protection Association backed two year quaranty

guaranty.

This Stourbridge-based com-This Stourbridge-based com-pany offers a huge range of the latest, made to measure doors, along with, work surfaces, acces-sories sinks & taps and applianc-es for your kitchen, meaning that the existing cabinets don't need to be ripped out in order to have a completely new look. They can also add additional new cabinets to improve the existing layout if

in improve the existing layout in required.

The public have responded to the idea of designer cosmetic makeovers since the popularity of TV shows like Changing Rooms, Property Ladder and House Doctor City and Province City and Property Ladder and House Doctor. Cherry Kitchens offer much more than merely a door replacement service, everything is looked at to ensure the end result is a complete transformation and everything is made to measure for the client's exact specifications.

Cherry Kitchens offer an initial free no obligation survey and quotation service initially to check the condition of your existing cabinets and to identify all of your ideas and requirements, and then in the comot of your home present all the

fort of your home present all the different options for you to con-

sider.
This is followed up with a tech nical survey to ensure every detail is considered prior to manufacturing and everything is made for you — nothing is from stock. The refur-



bishment is then carried out and many other kitchen items such as completed, normally within two to three working days with the minimum of fuss and disruption.

Showroom

Everything you could possibly imagine for the perfect makeover is now on display in the new Cher-ry Kitchens Makeover showroom next to Aldi on the Stourbridge ring

road.

Experience the showroom with a difference. As well as a wide selection of complete kitchen displays see their massive range of doors, work surfaces, appliances and

many other kitchen items such as new glass sinks, the latest taps, a new designer range of handles — all available to feel, touch, match and select to ensure that person-al finish for your own very special kitchen makeover. In addition, see the latest range of flooring to com-plete the final transformation.

Cherry were launching a free flooring offer on June 1, ask for details.

Cherry Kitchens like to give customers their full attention when visiting, so please call first to arrange a mutually convenient time on (01384) 395799



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post office move

to give their views on plans to move a town centre branch

Blackheath Post Office would move 300 metres from High Street to Halesowen

Street under the proposals.
Saturday opening hours would also be extended with the new store to open 9am to 5.30pm Monday to Saturday.

Confident

Will Russell, regional manager, said: "We understand how important having a Post Office is to residents in Blackheath and we are confident that this new modern Post Office service will meet the needs of the local community."

Residents wishing to give their view can

call the customer helpline on 08457 22 33

44.
The public consultation is due to close on

Call for views on Big drop in number of PCSOs Business is hit 13 post office move on the beat over last five years

munity Support Officers (PC-SOs) in the West Midlands and Staffordshire fell by 15 per cent in the last five years.

There were 160 fewer of the officers in both forces at the end of last year than in 2010. Some 135 of these were in the West Midlands and 25 in Staffordshire.

The Unison union says more needs to be done to protect police forces from Government cuts but bosses in-sist they are ensuring there are still dle of taking on 450 constables while Staffordshire Police is recruiting 31

PCSOs in the coming months.

Across the country, there has been a 27 per cent reduction in the number of PCSOs, with 4,430 jobs cut since 2010.

Communities

Critics say PCSOs make up the majority of neighbourhood police teams so the drop in numbers will have an effect on communities. It comes as the West Midlands force faces 2,500 job losses and £120 million of cuts in the next four years.

Unison general secretary Dave

Prentis said: "People feel safer when there is a visible and reassuring police presence on the beat. But four years of savage cuts to PCSOs mean that one-in-four police patrols have been withdrawn from our neighbourhoods since 2010."

since 2010."

West Midlands police and crime commissioner David Jamieson said: "Unison are absolutely correct that because of unfair Government cuts the number of PCSOs is falling.

"In the West Midlands we have

faced the largest policing cuts in the country, which have been disproportionately higher than lower-crime rural areas



David Jamieson

by blaze at club

THOUSANDS of pounds of damage have been caused to a bedroom and kitchen showroom in Dudley after a major fire de-

stroyed a neighbouring snooker club. Businessman Mark Price has spoken of his shock after the blaze at Dudley Snooker Club wrecked his showroom and office.

Arsonists have been blamed for the blaze at the club in Stafford Street, in the

early hours of Sunday, May 24.

Mr Price has been counting the costs of the damage at his business called Price-2Beat, which moved into the showroom

around two years ago.

The 46-year-old father-of-two said: "It has caused a fair bit of damage. It was a

He added: "I have moved the business to my home while the damage is ass

It's the simples life with a log at the zoo



Three of the zoo's meerkats get stuck into insect dinner

DIGGING for grubs may not sound like a pleasant hobby to us, but meerkats at Dudley Zoo are loving it. The intriguing creatures have been busy since keepers added old

logs full of tasty creepy crawlies to their den.
Senior keeper Jodie Dryden brought in the rotten logs to keep the meerkat group entertained.
She said: "The logs were covered in moss and harboured

lots of grubs so the meerkats had a marvellous time searching for treats. It was also an activity which allowed them to display their natural feeding behaviour and it was wonderful to watch."

The meerkat is a member of the mongoose family native to southern Africa

to southern Africa.

Meerkats live in large social groups of around 20 individuals – it can be 50-plus – and are known collectively as a mob, gang or clan. They live within a large underground network of burrows which they leave only during the day. In addition to insects, meerkats will eat lizards, snakes, spiders and scorpions, and in their natural habitat they have developed an immunity to powerful scorpion venom.

First new secondary school for a decade

A FORMER high school is to be demolished, with the first new secondary school in Sandwell borough for a decade to be built in its place.

The bulldozers will move in on the former Langley High School in Moat Road, Oldbury, after being given the go-ahead by council chiefs.

The demolition of the building marks the next stage in

the process to build a new secondary school on the site.

Work will quickly begin on the new school once the site

Sandwell Council welcomed the development as 'great news for the children of Sandwell' when it was announced

The borough had been in desperate need of a new sec ondary school with others stretched to the limit by a baby boom in recent years.



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Heart of the community

port began life in 1964 when Father Bryan Scrivener, and wife Dorothy, from Kings Heath, decided to support their local community by collecting old furniture to help homeless people find and furnish accommodation.

They stored everything in their front room and used his Jeep to transport people and goods around the area. By 1966, demand had risen so sharply that they registered Community Transport as a charity, making it the first known

use of the term commu-nity transport in the UK. Community Transport op-erates in three regions – the West Midlands, North West and North East.

Its services include pro-viding low cost minibus hire to voluntary and community groups, schools and not-for-profit organisations. Based at Sandwell, Liz

Sutton runs the minibus service which has had a successful year. Its dial-a-ride service in South Staffordshire is continually growing and they have also purchased a new 2014 min-ibus which is the first of two to continue with the growth of passenger transport,



A new 2014 minibus has been purchased by Community Transport

ensuring comfortable travel for all they support.

The buses are available for self hire too. Please contact Community Transport for further details.

A record breaking year saw the organisation help 190,000 people reach vital health-checks, appointments and destinations.

"Many people are isolated in their own homes and are unable to access services without Community

Transport's 80-strong fleet of accessible minibuses and vans," says its chief executive Jo Beaumont.

"Our Sandwell branch is situated near to Asda in Great Bridge and can easily be accessed by the number 74 bus route from Dudley or West Bromwich.

"Our aim is to supply good quality second hand furniture at affordable prices with free delivery within the Sandwell area.

"We rely on donations from the community and we collect your goods for free, we accept sofas beds, wardrobes, chest of drawers, electrical items, bric-a-brac, bedding, toys and clothes.

"Any items that you have

that are in general good condition we are interested in. Just give us a call and we will arrange a collection that suits you.

"Our opening hours are

Monday to Thursday 9am to 5pm, Friday 9am to 4.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm. "Pease feel free to pop in

and have a browse."

There are five furniture stores in the West Midlands

based at West Bromwich, Bilston, Wednesfield, Bir-mingham and Coventry.

All offer a free collec-tion service for unwanted furniture and stock and sell a range of good quality fur-niture at affordable prices.

Thousands of low-income households have been helped in the buying of good-quality furniture and white goods at affordable prices, saving more than 400 tonnes of such items from being dumped in landfill sites.
Services include collect-

ing donated good quality furniture items, selling them on at affordable prices, as well as carrying out house clearances and removals – and providing minibus and other transport-related training.
Community Transport is

always looking for place-ments and volunteers to help it provide the best service it can.

If you feel you could spare a few hours or days to help support the community and gain some valuable experience visit the West Bromwich store or contact Community Transport, at 216 Great Bridge Street, West Bromwich, B70 0DE Telephone 0121 520 8168



The registered charity helps to furnish the homes of thousands in the borough



The aim is to supply good quality second hand furniture at affordable prices



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supporting local communities



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A POPULAR Dudley trader has stepped down from his role running a popular toy shop

Alan Caswell and relatives at the family business, including sister Lynne, have handed over The Arcade Toy Shop, in the Fountain Arcade, off Dudley High Street, to new owners Dave Carter and Martyn Perry.

The shop was first opened by Mr Caswell's father Charles and business partner Harry Harper, who took on the store when a previous toy shop at the site, called Woodsworths, shut down in 1967. His store was nominated as West Midlands toy store of the year in 1989 by the National Association of Toy Retailers. A £200,000 revamp of the arcade is under way using cash from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the store has been moved temporarily to another unit in the arcade.

Mr Caswell,62, from Pattingham, has decided to retire. Shoppers and traders in the arcade gave Mr Caswell

tire. Shoppers and traders in the arcade gave Mr Caswell

gifts and presents. But the grandfather-of-six will be on hand for advice and support for the new owners. Dave Carter, 47, and 51-year-old Martyn Perry, both from Dudley, have taken ownership of the shop.

Young footballers help Hollie achieve her goal

A JUNIOR football team from the Black Country has helped make a disabled girl's dream of being able to play in her garden come true

Netherton Colts regularly raises

A JUNIOR football team from the to make it accessible for their daughter, who uses a wheelchair. Ramps and other measures have made the garden more wheelchair-friendly.

Colts chairman Carl Botley, said.

Netherton Colts regularly raises cash for good causes and this year chose to support six-year-old Hollie Flatman. More than £1,000 was raised by the club at three presentation evenings that saw sports memorabilia auctioned off and raffes held. Hollie, who lives in Netherton, was born with Type Three Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), a genetic condition which affects the nerves that control muscle movement. Her parents Paula and Toby have spent years raising money for SMA charities and officials at the football club decided they would like to help

club decided they would like to help

The money raised has allowed Hol-lie's parents to convert their garden

"We found out about Hollie through we found out about Holle through one of our managers Steve Pooler, who works with Hollie's dad. Hol-lie's parents do so much fundraising themselves and the club felt it was time to give something back to them and Hollie."

and Hollie."
Hollie, who attends St Mary's
Catholic School in Brierly Hill, has
always wanted to be able to invite
her friends round play in her garden.
Paula said: "Hollie is always invited to play at her friends houses
after school but as she is in a wheelhear it is inter to alferent. All she

chair it is just too difficult. All she wants is to be able to play with her friends in the garden and now we can make the necessary changes."



Members of Netherton Colts FC are fundraising for Hollie Flatman pictured with her father Toby

Gym locker thief sent to jail for two years

A THIEF who targeted gym lockers, getting away with car keys, mobile phones, bank cards and cash, has been locked up for more than two years.

Nicky Lawrence's one-man crime spree at Pure Gyms around the Black Country netted a total haul

August and September last year, duping gym staff with false details.

Two of the cars he man-aged to steal were never found but some of the other round but some of the other victims had property returned following his arrest, Mr Gerry Bermingham told Wolverhampton Crown Court. Lawrence was decourt. Lawrence was detained while at the wheel of the third stolen car – a Vauxhall Corsa – and a bag containing much of the rest of his haul was discovered in the vehicle.

Nasty

Mr Philip Brunt, defending, said Lawrence was short of money and he had taken 'pot luck' when selecting which lockers to prise open because he had not known what any of them contained contained.

Mr Brunt continued: "He Mr Brunt continued: "He made a number of wrong choices in an effort to improve his situation and accepts his offending must have been nasty and unpleasant for his victims."

Gyms around the Black Country netted a total haul worth £10,000.

The 27-year-old father stole three cars after finding the keys in the lockers, targeting branches in Wolverhampton, West Bromwich, Smethwick and Stourbridge.

In total, he struck 15 times in two months in August and September last with Wolverhampton gym and Wolverhampton gym and Lawrence from Chipston Road, Alum Rock, Birmingham, admitted two charges of theft from the Wolverhampton gym and 10 other charges relating to thefts from the other three branches of the gym chain. The thief was sent to prison for two years and five months by Recorder Abigail Nixon.

months by Recorder Abigail Nixon.
She told the jobless father-of-one: "You clearly planned what you were going to do and used false details to get into these changing rooms.
"It was a sophisticated series of offences involving at least £10,000 worth of property and you took it

property and you took it as you moved from gym to gym, causing a considerable amount of inconvenience to your victims - just to satisfy

your need for money."
She added: "I am sure you had no regard whatsoever for these people. You went on time and time again to

"Many people have fi-nancial problems and they struggle to find work but they do not behave in this

Garden party ruined by air gun incident

A FAMILY barbecue in Dudley was disturbed by a man

A FAMILIA Balvette in Dutiety was usuabled by a main with an air gun, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. Matthew Hunt pointed the air rifle at Andrew Lane who was holding the party on June 14 last year in his garden, which backed onto Hunt's home, said Mr Alex Warren, prosecuting.

The confrontation came after Mr Lane had showed his

own air gun to a guest at the barbecue and shot at tin cans. Then 22-year-old Hunt appeared at a window in his home holding his air rifle. He then appeared with the air gun at the fence and urged Mr Lane to 'load his weapon.' The neighbour called police and told officers he had been scared

and upset. Hunt, of Greenway Gardens, Dudley admitted using threatening words and behaviour. He was given a 12-month community order under supervision and told to pay £200 costs. The air rifle was ordered to be destroyed.





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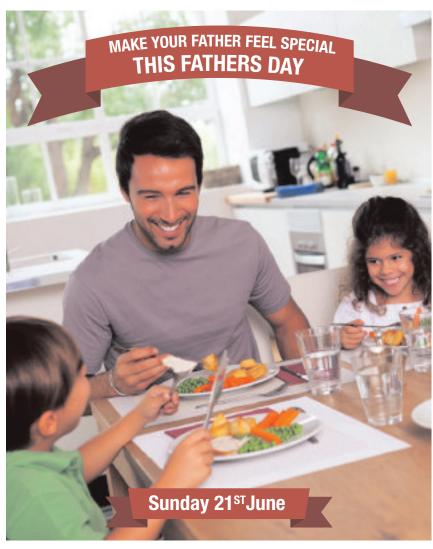
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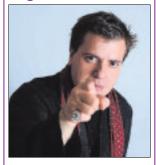
Tuesday, 7pm Barclaycard Arena, B'ham World-wide, multi-platinum-selling singer Ariana Grande heads to Birmingham next week on her Honeymoon tour in support of last summer's album My Everything. Visit www,barclaycardarena.co.uk

Hilarity Charity Gala 2015



Monday, 7.30pm Grand Theatre, W'ton This night of comedy is compered by comedy legend Daniel Kitson and features Greg Davies, Wolverhamp-ton's very own Pappy's (BBC3's Badults) and Katherine Byan Visit www.grandtheatre.co.uk

Juice Comedy **Night**



Saturday, 7.30pm Gatehouse Theatrem Stafford Danny Buckler (pictured) began his career as a magician, fronting his own magic show for Channel 4. On Saturday he tops the bill at the Juice Comedy club night.
www.staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk

BBC Good Food Show Summer



Thursday - June 14, from 9am

NEC, B'ham All tickets to the show include a seat in the Supertheatre, to see top chefs and experts cooking live on stage. This year's line-up includes Mary Berry (pictured) and John Torode

ROCK & POP

Fleetwood Mac £56.70 - £135.70 Genting Arena, Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

Ariana Grande Tue at 7pm, £37.26 - £44.01 Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, B1 2AA. Call 0121 780 4141

5 Seconds of Summer Fri. Sat at 7.30pm. Fri, Sat at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £31.10 Barclaycard Arena Birmingham, B1 2AA. Call 0121 780 4141

Fri, Sat at 11pm, £5 - £10 The Jam House, 3-5 St Pauls Square, Birmingham, B31QU. Call 0121 200 3030

Bring it all Back Sat at 7.30pm, £13 - £15 Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

Fri at 7.30pm, £10 - £12 The Robin 2, Bilston, Call 01902 401211

Mostly Autumn 'Dressed In

Voices' Sun at 7.30pm, £14 - £15 The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Talon - Best Of Eagles Sun at 7.30pm, £14.50 - £24.25 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call 01543 412121

Slade UK Sat at 7pm, £6 - £8.80 Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1HP. Call 01902 552106

Dreaming Of Kate Sat at 8pm, £18 Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ. Call 01527 577330

Counting Crows - Somewhere Under
Wed at 7pm, £41.25
Wolverhampton Civic Hall,

WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

From The Jam Sat at 7.30pm, £20 - £22.50 The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

The Enid Thu at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £15 The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Fri at 7.30pm, £8 - £10 Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton, WV1 4AN.

FOLK & ACOUSTIC

Irish Session Wed at 8pm, Free Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB. Call 01384 374410

The Simon and Garfunkel Story Sat at 7.30pm, £14 - £22.40 New Alexandra Theatre, Station Street, Birmingham, B5 4DS. Call 0844 871 3011

Black Diamond Singers Night Fri at 8.30pm, The Lamp Tavern (Birmingham), B5 6AH. Call 0121 622 2599

Singers' Night
Thu at 8pm, £2 (£1 singers)
Brewood Cricket Club,
ST19 9HX. Call 01902 850422

Brewood Acoustic Club

Yis Aye Sat at 7.45pm, £6.75 - £7.75 Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203 Common Folk: Flossie

Malavialle Thu at 8.30pm, £5 Pelsall Cricket & Sports Club, Walsall Road, Walsall, WS3 4BP. Call 01922 682018

Country Music Nights Sun at 8.15pm, £2 Swan With Two Necks, Longdon, WS15 4PN. Call 01543 491570

Dan Whitehouse and others Fri at 8pm, £8 The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

JAZZ & BLUES

Matthew Long Fri at 7.30pm, £12 - £12.75 Palace Theatre, Alcester Street, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

Sat at 8pm, £16 The Crescent Theatre, B'ham, B16 8AE. Call 0121 643 5858

Buddy Fri, Sat at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, £10 - £17 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call 01543 412121

Lunchtime Guitar Concert Fri at 1.10pm - 1.50pm, Free Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, B3 3DH. Call 0121 303 1966

CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC

Hypnotic Brass Ensemble Wed at 7pm, £15 The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

Royal Opera: La Bohème Wed at 7.15pm, £10 - £18 Light House, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HT. Call 01902 716055

Wed at 7.15pm, £12 - £15 Conquest Theatre, Bromyard, HR7 4DU. Call 01885 488575

Welsh National Opera - Peter Pan
Thu at 7.15pm, £16 - £49
Birmingham Hippodrome,
B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Welsh National Opera - The Magic Flute
Wed at 7.15pm, £16 - £49
Birmingham Hippodrome,

B5 4TB Call 0844 338 5000

Botown: The Soul Of Bollywood Sat at 7pm, £15 The Drum, Aston on Carrant, Birmingham, B6 4UU.
Call 0121 333 2400

THEATRE

Hilarity Charity Gala 2015 Mon at 7.30pm, £16 - £21 Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

The Curious Incident of ... Fri, Sat at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, £11.90 - £42.50 ETT.90 - £42.50 Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

The Boy in the Stripped

Pyjamas
Tue at 7.15pm, Wed, Thu at 1.45pm, Thu at 10am, £9.50 - £45 Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

James and the Giant Peach James and the Glant Peach Sat at 11am, 2.30pm, Sun at 2.30pm, £9 - £11 Blue Orange Theatre, Birmingham, B18 6AD. Call 0121 212 2643

Cirque Du Hilarious Sun at 2pm, 6pm, £8.50 - £14.50 Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Call 01902 573320

Noises Off Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, £9.50 - £12 The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster, DY10 2RX. Call 01562 743745

Thu at 7.30pm, £12.75 Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

Collidoscope Sat at 7.30pm, £8 - £12 Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ. Call 01527 577330 **BMOS Fiddler on the Roof** Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, £12.90 - £18.90 New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS. Call 0844 871 3011

The Siege Fri, Sat at 8pm, £12 Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

First Stages - Little Red Sat at 11.30am, 2pm, 3.30pm,

Dot & Ethel: Gorilla Gardening Sun at 11am, 2.30pm, £8 - £28 mac, Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham, B12 9QH. Call 0121 446 3232

Nights on Broadway Fri at 7.30pm, £17.50 Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE Call 01902 573320

We'll Meet Again - Hits From The

Blitz Mon at 2.30pm, £11 - £13 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call 01543 412121

Arena Theatre Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE. Call 01902 321321

DANCE

Aladdin

Fri at 7.30pm. £10 - £18 Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE. Call 01543 578762

Jaleo Flamenco Dance Company Sat at 7.30pm, £18.50 Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, W11 1DE. Call 01902 573320

COMEDY

Juice Comedy 2015 Sat at 7,30pm, £12 Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Joe Bor is Jasper Cromwell Fri at 7.45pm, £8.75 - £10.75 Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

ART EXHIBITIONS

Linden Road Artists Fri, Sat, Sun at 10am - 5pm, Free Selly Manor Museum, Bournville, Birmingham, Call 0121 472 0199

St Ives Artists Fri, Sat, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10am _5pm, Sun at 12pm - 4pm, The New Art Gallery Walsall, WS2 8LG. Call 01922 654400

Fri at 10.30am - 5pm, Sat, Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10am -

Spm, Free Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, B3 3DH. Call 0121 303 1966 A Century of Surgeons Fri, Sat, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10.30am - 4.30pm, £2 - £4.50 The Museum Of Carpet,

Kidderminster, DY10 1AZ Call 01562 69028 Pop in Space Fri, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10am - 5pm, Sat, Sun at 10.30am -

4.30pm, Free Wolverhampton Art Gallery, WV1 1DU. Call 01902 552055

The Liberated Quilt

Tue, Thu at 10am - 4pm, Wed at 10am - 7pm, Fri at 10am - 1pm, Sat at 11am - 4pm, Free Bilston Craft Gallery, WV14 7LU. Call 01902 552507

Georgian Enamels Fri, Sat, Sun, Tue, Wed, Thu at 11am - 5pm, Free Bantock House Wolverhampton, WV3 9LQ. Call 01902 552195

OTHER EVENTS

Science of Sound 14/15 Fri at 10am, £6.000 Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

BBC Good Food Show Summer Thu at 9am, £24.25 - £94 The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

BBC Gardeners World Live 2015 Thu at 9am, £22.50 - £94 The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

The Quiz Tue at 7.30pm, Free Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB. Call 01384 374410

Sandon Hall Summer Plant Fair

Sunday Sandon Hall, ST18 0DL

Stone Farmers' Market Sat, from 9am Market Square, Stone

You Crafty Thing! Thu at 10.30am - 12.30pm,

The Museum Of Cannock Chase, Hednesford, Cannock, WS12 1TD. Call 01543 877666

Check out full listings in the ticket in Friday's Express & Star

Return of the Mac in classic line-up



John McVie and Stevie Nicks of Fleetwood Mac — expect to hear Dreams, Rhiannon, Songbird and Don't Stop

THE return of Fleetwood Mac will THE return of Fleetwood Mac will be especially relished by fans in Birmingham as it marks the reunion of the classic Mac line-up with Birmingham-raised Christine McVie back in the band after a 16-year break.

McVie, who sang on Mac favourites Little Lies and You Make Loving Fun, grew up in Bearwood when her father was a music professor and concert vi-olinist who played with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Before her marriage to Fleetwood Mac bassist John McVie, former Bir-mingham art student Christine Per-fect Joined Black Country blues band Chicken Shack and sang on their 1969 hit I'd Rather Go Blind.

The McVies will be joined on stage at the Genting Arena on Monday and Tuesday by founder member drum-mer Mick Fleetwood and the band's American contingent Stevie Nicks and Lindsey Buckingham.

Expect such classic songs at Dreams, Rhiannon and Don't Stop, and the Mac will return for a third gig at NEC venue on July 4. For tickets call 0844 338 8000.

Also coming up is the return Shaun Ryder and Bez, reunited with rapper Kermit, as Black Grape mark the 20th anniversary of debut album It's Great When You're Straight... Yead at Bilston's Robin 2 on Wednesday, June 10. Call 01902 401211.



wishes come true on Tonight's The Night.

Currently he is playing the villain Malcolm Merlyn in hit
US superhero show Arrow, which is aired in the UK by Sky.

He is also a DJ with his own Sunday evening show on
Magic FM and is a fantasy author having penned three books
with his sister Carole E Barrowman, the Hollow Earth series

with his sister Carole E Barrowman, the Hollow Earth series for young adults.

Former Birmingham Hippodrome panto star John said: "I'm so excited to be touring again that I'm choreographing songs and arranging stories in my sleep!"

John's fans funded the album through PledgeMusic's Direct to Fan platform and features new arrangements of his favourite songs, including Mandy, Bridge Over Troubled Water and the title track.
"This album has been a thrilling personal journey for me"

and the title track.

"This album has been a thrilling personal journey for me," added John. "Each lyric, each melody means something special. I can't wait to perform them live for all my fans."

For tickets see www.thsh.co.uk or call 0121 345 0600.

again'

Clary will top bill at Brum's pantomime

I'm so excited

to be touring

COMEDIAN Julian Clary, singer Marti Pellow and West End star Lee Mead will take to the stage in Birmingham Hippodrome's pantomime Aladdin this winter. The family favourite runs at the venue from December 19 until January 31, 2016. Clary, playing the Spirit of the Ring, has established himself as one of the country's most popular panto performers and played Dandini in Cinderella at the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre last winter. last winter. Wet Wet Wet frontman Pel-

Wet wer wer frontman Fej-low will star as the evil sorcerer Abanazar. In the main role of Aladdin is musical theatre star Mead, who won BBCTV talent show Any Dream Will Do.

Drama, dance, music and comedy

THE Boy In The Striped Pyjamas is at Wolverhampton Grand Tuesday to Saturday. Based on John Boyne's popular novel for young readers about the friend-ship between the nine-year-old son of a concentration camp commandant and a young Pol-ish Jewish prisoner, it was made

into a hit movie.

Also at the Grand, Russell Watson sings tonight, The Bee Gees story is told in Nights On Broadway tomorrow, Spanish dancers of Jaleo Flamenco perdancers of Janeo Flamenco per-form on Saturday, zany Cirque Du Hilarious entertain families on Sunday at 2 and 6pm; and the Hilarity Charity Gala with Greg Davies is on Monday.

Red Lemons band get back together

ONE of the Black Country's favourite bands in the 1980s are

vourite bands in the 1980s are planning a reunion concert in their home town of Stourbridge Just like inspirations The Blues Brothers, The Red Lemon Electric Blues band are getting the band back together — for a special gig at Stourbridge Town Hall on September 11. In their heyday, the soul outfit fronted by Big Jim Merris sold out such venues as JBs and Junction 10 and supported Chuck Berry, Robert Plant and Motown's Edwin Starr. They briefly fea-tured Adrian Chiles on bass and on tambourine a young Suzi Perry, the TV presenter's father Tony managed the group.











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Man food - the big burger and fries

Service with a smile but some Lyttel problems with the food

much more than a crusty ham cob, a packet of crisps and a pickled onion these days.

It's an adventure and a chance to sample fine foods from foreign lands

sample fine foods from foreign lands to transport you from good old Blighty to more exciting, sunnier climes.

Pubs are desperately trying to be different in order to survive and food is where the big bucks come from these days.

Artisan rustic breads, Mediterranean mezze, Nocellara olives all sound so interesting and intriguing that it really makes you want to experiment and try something new.

It's funny but no matter how many dishes can appear on a menu, when I'm dining out with my other half and parents I can pretty much predict who will have what.

So for our culinary experience we decided on one of our favourite destinations – The Lyttelton Arms, Bromsgrove Road, Stourbridge. It has a track record that's pretty good going as busy restaurants go.

It was a return visit as two years had passed since we last sampled its delights.

Inside it looks the same. It's cosy yet contemporary with rural-themed cannvases adorning the walls; woodpigeons, and country gents ready to hunt.

The menu style though has changed a little. It's become more eclectic trying to appeal to too many different tastes. For want of a better word 'trendy'. It was bustling with most of the tables occupied on a spring-like Saturday lunchtime.

When my mum had booked she'd requested the softer seating area (it's a pen-

bothered) and normally they comply but on this occasion we were shown to a chunky wooden table with bum-numbing chairs but

cushions were dispensed.

The service was impeccable. Not invasive but professional, swift and cheerful. We mulled over the menu with our first round of drinks and the waiter stopped by with a dish of nibbly bits. These were some dried broad beans sprinkled in paprika.

Dunked

Our starters arrived in just the right amount of time. Mum loved her rustic breads, big hunks of wholemeal loaf dunked in oil mixed with seed sprinkle.

Dad's soup on the other hand didn't have quite the same effect. He had gone for one of his favourites the leek and potato. But he

found it watery and bland. Our Camembert

dicted the men went for burgers, mum cod and chips and me?

Well I went the far-out way of battered halloumi.

The burgers were on sturdy wooden boards with buckets of thin fries. The men loved them. The cod and halloumi both came resting on a row of chip slats but the ratio of different food stuffs for each dish was way off.
A massive piece of fish on seven (yep, we counted) twice-cooked thick cut chips with

a tablespoon of pea purée and pretty much an entire lemon.

Dinner done. We ventured to the dessert

menu and all were delicious

The bill came in at just shy of £125 for the four of us, probably a little more than we felt the food was actually worth.

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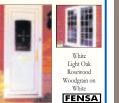
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John Bishop

The John Bishop Show (BBC1, 9.45pm)

The first edition of the Liverpudlian comedian's series went down a storm, so we have every reason to believe that this one will also be a winner. Once again. Bishop is at the Hackney Empire in central London, and he's promising viewers an evening of top-class entertainment. Topping the bill are comedians Chris Ramsey, Zoe Lyons, Funmbi Omotayo and New Zealander Sam Wills. who is better known as The Boy with Tape on His Face, while musical interludes are provided by Jessie Ware and Striking Matches. Bishop shows off his own fancy footwork while attempting an Irish dance routine with the cast of Riverdance, which has to be seen to be believed - just don't give up the day job, John.

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 The Box. (R) 12.00 BBC Live. 11.30 The Box. (R) 12.00 BBC
News; Weather 12.10 Football Focus.
12.50 Athletics. 2.00 The Olympic
Journey: Born Winners. Gabby Logan
investigates whether a person's DNA
decides if they will be a winner. (R) 2.30
Bargain Hunt. (R) 3.30 Homes Under the
Hammer. (R) 4.30 Escape to the Country.
(R) 5.00 Live Formula 1: The Canadian
Grand Prix — Qualifying. Action from the
battle for pole position (Start-time
6.00pm).

- 7.15 BBC News.
- 7.25 Regional Programme
- 7.25 New You See It. The best and worst of the magic world, featuring a tortoise performing the classic cup and ball trick and a magician who disappears into a photocopier. Narrated by Mel
- 8.05 The National Lottery: Who Dares Wins. Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which two pairs of complete strangers team up, each battling to outdo the other by listing as much as they know about a given subject. The first couple to win two rounds get to couple to win two rounds get to play for £50,000 and each time the champions defeat a new set of opponents their winnings mount up. Includes the Lotto and Thunderball draws.

 Casualty, A patient's family crisis jeopardises Cal and Ethan's plan to attend a clinical trial in Finland and Dylan is crestfallen when Connie takes back the role of clinical lead.
- 9.45 The John Bishop Show. An ening of entertainment at the Hackney Empire theatre in London, including performances by Jessie Ware, Striking Matches, Chris Ramsey and Funmbi
- 10.30 BBC News; Weather.; National Lottery Update.
- Lottery Update.

 10.50 Not Going Out. Lucy has her handbag stolen by a gang of muggers right under Lee's nose, so he sets out to prove he is not a total wimp. Sitcom, starring Lee Mack and Sally Bretton. (R)
- 11.20 Film: Tropic Thunder. (2008) The cast of a Vietnam War movie unknowingly wanders into the middle of a real-life conflict. Comedy, directed by and starring Ben Stiller, with Jack Black.

12.55 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.00

RRC2

6.00 Animal Park. (R) 7.00 Film: A Tale of Two Cities. (1958) 8.55 Film: Firecreek. Two Cities. (1988) 8.55 Film: Firecreek. (1968) 10.35 James Stewart: Talking Pictures. (R) 11.25 Film: The Man Who Knew Too Much. (1956) 1.20 Formula 1 The Canadian Grand Prix – Second Practice. (R) 2.55 Live Formula 1: The Canadian Grand Prix.—Third Practice.

- Canadian Grand Prax Intra Practice.
 Further action from the Circuit Gilles
 Villeneuve in Montreal. 4.00 F1 Rewind:
 Senna. 5.00 Antiques Road Trip. (R)
 6.00 Gardeners' World. Carol Klein
 observes one of 400 gardens
 preparing to open to the public as
 part of the National Gardens
 Scheme, while a bekkepper arrives with a swarm for Monty Don's new
- 6.30 Flog It! Thomas Plant and Michael Flog it informas Plant and michael Baggott value items in Cirencester, Gloucestershire, including a 200-year-old teapot and costume jewellery encrusted with real diamonds. Paul Martin vists a 400-year-old house where even the cobwebs are being preserved for future generations. (R)
- 7.30 Edwardian Farm. It is October and Edwardian Farm. It is October and Alex Langlands, Peter Ginn and Ruth Goodman take on new enterprises — market gardening, egg production, raising beef cattle and food preservation – using only Edwardian tools and materials. The team members also create cider on an industrial scale, bring a bull to the farm, launch a chicken business and celebrate Halloween – early 20th-century style. (R)
- Business and technical manweer

 early 20th-century style. (R)

 8.30 Dad's Army. A major decides
 Corporal Jones is too old to be in
 the Home Guard, asking him to
 prove his worth by completing an
 assault course. (R)

 9.00 Pinewood: 80 Years of Movie
 Magic. Jonathan Ross gains
 unprecedented access to the
 iconic British film studio, meeting
 Joan Collins and Barbara Windsor
 to discuss their experiences on
 set. The site in Buckinghamshire
 was transformed into a studio
 during the 1930s and became
 home to the James Bond, Harry during the 1930s and became home to the James Bond, Harry Potter, Superman and Carry On film series, and Ross goes behind the scenes to tackle some daring and spectacular stunts of his own. 10.30 Film: My Week with Marilyn. (2011) Fact-based drama, with Michelle Williams.

12.05 The Many Faces of Sid James. (R) 1.05 Film: Quatermass 2. (1957) 2.25 This Is BBC Two.

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge, 6.25 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan: Treks Adventures. (R) 6.45 Dino Dan: Treks Adventures. (R) 7.00 Canimals. (R) 7.15 Sooty, (R) 7.30 Super 4. (R) 7.45 Nerds & Monsters. (R) 8.00 Thunderbirds Are Go. 8.25 ITV News. 8.30 Weekend. 9.25 The Jeremy News. 8.30 Weekend. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 11.30 All Star Family Fortunes. (R) 12.15 ITV News; Weather 12.25 Doc Martin. (R) 1.30 Live French Open Tennis. The women's singles final from Roland Garros. 5.30 Off Their Rockers, (R)

- 6.00 Regional Programme: Weather.
- Toylamine, Weather.
 S.10 ITV News; Weather.
 O.25 You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, including a birthday girl whose hair catches fire. (R)
- including a birthday girl whose hair catches fire. (R)

 7.00 Live UFFA Champions League. Juventus v Barcelona (Kick-off 7.45pm). Coverage of the showpiece game from the Olympiastadion in Berlin, where two gnants of Italian and Spanish football battle it out. Juve are appearing in their first European Cup final for 12 years on that occasion they were defeated by rivals AD Milan on penalties at Old Trafford while Barca last appeared at this stage in 2011, when they overcame Manchester United at Wembley to lift the trophy for the fourth time. Should the Catalan club have triumphed over Athletic Bilbao in the Copa del Rey final prior to this contest, then victory here for either club will see them record an historic treble; league and Juve claimed the Cona latial with victory over having both won their domestic league and Juve claimed the Coppa Italia with victory over Lazio. Presented by Mark Pougatch, with commentary by Clive Tyldesley and Andy Townsend. Subsequent programmes are subject to change.
- 10.20 ITV News; Weather.

10.2011 News; weather.

10.35 Play to the Whistle – Extra Time.
Holly Willoughby presents a
compilation of clips from the
sports-based comedy panel show,
in which two teams go head to
head in quizzes and physical
games. Last in the series.

11.15 UEFA Champions League: Extra Time. Juventus v Barcelona.

12.00 The Chase. (R) 12.55 Jackpot247. 3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 6.40 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 7.05 Snowdonia Slateman Triathlon. 7.30 The Grid. 8.00 Derby Day Morning Line. 9.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 10.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 10.30 Frasier. (R) 11.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.50 The Simpsons. (R) 1.25 The Derby. Channel 4 Racing from Epsom. Including the 4.30 Investee Derby (I m 4) 5.00 Channel 4 News. 5.20 Couples Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.05 Benchmark. Game show in which

- S.05 Benchmark. Game show in which contestants decide how 10 people answered a series of tricky numerical questions. Hosted by Paddy McGuinness. (R)
- 7.00 Celebrity Fifteen to One. Jason Manford, Germaine Greer and Jimmy Carr are among the 15 well-known faces competing to win a large cash prize for charity, nominating each other to answei
- win a large casin prize for charty, more large cash prize to rotarty, mominating each other to answer questions until only the winner is left standing. Notoriously tough general knowledge quiz, hosted by Adam Hills. (R) Man. Alison and Matthew Grey, two designers from London with young children, are looking for a new place to live within commuting distance of the city. The couple plan to turn a pumping station into a design haven, but with costs mounting, have to refinance to finish the build. Architect George Clarke follows Architect George Clarke follows their progress. (R)
- 9.00 Film: Anna Karenina. (2012) Premiere. The wife of a government official travels to Moscow to save her brother's marriage. Her journey leads to an encounter with a married cavalry officer, with whom she is instantly smitten, and when he follows her home, a passionate affair develops that scandalises the town and drives her husband to desperate ends. Period drama based on Leo Tolstoy's novel, starring Keira (nightle)
- Knightley.

 11.35 Film: The Brave One. (2007) A radio talk-show host descends into a spiral of violence after taking the law into her own hands to avenge her flance's murder. Thriller, starring Jodde Foster.

 1.50 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. (R) 2.40 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) 3.40 Hollyoaks. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. 10.35 Access. 10.40 Ninjā Turtles. 10.35 Access. 10.40
Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R)
11.40 Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R)
11.40 Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R) 12.40 Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R) 1.40 Film: Columbo: Old Fashioned Murder. (1976) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk. 3.10 inside Manchester's Midland Hotel. (R) 4.10
GPs: Behind Closed Doors. (R) 5.10 The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies. (R)
5.11. The Midharas Naichharas Markharas M

- 6.10 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. A couple whose retirement was ruined by an 8ft wall built by their neighbour, plus a mother and daughter fed up with living opposite a flat full of rabbits. (R)
- 7.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.
 Enforcement agents are faced with
 the difficult job of evicting a
 woman with two children a task that takes a turn for the worse when her ex-partner makes an appearance. (R)
 5 News Weekend.
- No Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud
 Comedians Matt Richardson
 and Kaby Brand present another selection of the most popular videos featuring dogs, while pet behaviourist Professor Peter Neville provides the scientific background. Featuring Bizkits selected from the provide of the scientific background. sakepwalking antics, which have notched up almost 33 million hits on YouTube, and footage of Norman the French sheepdog riding scooters, skateboards and bikes. (R)
- 9.00 Big Brother, Friday's highlights
- 9.00 Big Brother. Friday's highlights, including housemates' reactions to the latest eviction, revealing how the departure has affected the remaining contestants.

 10.00 The Incredible Hulk Woman:
 Extraordinary People.
 Documentary following a mother-of-three who has rare neurological condition stiff-person syndrome, which causes severe muscle spasms in the arms and legs. (R)

 10.55 Kellie Maloney: No Going Back.
- 10.55 Kellie Maloney: No Going Back.
 Documentary following the boxing promoter as she embarked on a sex change, from her appearance on Celebrity Big Brother through to her final full gender-reassignment surgery. (R) 11.55 Access. (R)
- 12.00 SuperCasino. 3.10 Big Brother (R) 4.00 Furious & Funny: Caught on Camera. (R) 4.50 Make It Big. (R) 5.45 Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Top Cear 8.00 Don't Tell the Bride
9.00 Live at the Apollo 9.30 Family Guy
10.35 Match of the Day Live: Women's
World Cup. Canada v China (Kick-off
11.00pm'). 1.00 Family Guy 1.25 Murder
in Successville 1.55 Nick Helm's Heavy
Entertainment 2.26 Russell Howard's
Good News 2.55 Live at the Apollo 3.25
Murder in Successville 4.00 Close
BBC Faur

BBC Four
7.09 Fossi Wonderlands: Nature's
Hidden Treasures 8.00 Wild Arabia 9.00
140.55 TOTP2: Summertime Special
11.55 Top of the Pops: 1980 12.35 Guital
Heroes at the BBC 1.35 Wild Arabia 2.35
Metamorphosis – The Science of Change
3.35 Close

ITV2

11.30 Britain's Got More Talent: Simon's
Top Ten Moments 12.30 Film:
Beethoven's 2nd (1993) 2.15 Mr Bean
3.25 Totally Bonkers Guinness World
Records 3.50 Film: Kangaroo Jack
(2003) 5.35 Film: Cats & Dogs (2001) 7.25 Film: The Lost World: Jurassic Park (1997) 10.00 Film: 2 Fast 2 Furious (2003) 12.10 Film: Red Dragon (2002) 2.25 Life's Funniest Moments 2.50 Teleshopping 5.50 ITV2 Nightscreen

1.00 Lewis 7.00 Midsomer Murders 9.00 Foyle's War 11.00 A Touch of Frost 1.10 Wire in the Blood 2.05 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping

11.55 BRDC Formula 4 Championship 11.55 BRDC Formula 4 Championship Highlights 1.00 Live Flh Formula E Championship. The Moscow ePrix. 3.30 Minder 4.30 Storage Wars 4.55 Football's Greatest: Zinedine Zidane 5.15 Live French Open Tennis: The men's doubles final. 7.00 TT 2015 10.00 Film: You Only Live Twice (1967) 12.25 River Monsters 1.30 TT 2015 2.30 Nitro Circus 2.50 ITV4 Nightscreen 3.00 eleshopping

E4
12.00 Baby Daddy 1.00 The Goldbergs
2.00 How! Met Your Mother 3.00 Film:
Clueless (1995), 5.00 Made in Chelsea
6.00 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Film:
Battle: Los Angeles (2011) 11.20 Poke
Gogglebox 1.25 Rude Tube 2.30 2 Brote
Girls 2.55 How! Met Your Mother 3.35
Rules of Engagement 4.25 New Girl

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195/50R15

205/50R16

205/50R17 225/50R17 195/45R16

215/45R17

225/45R17

205/40R17

225/40R18

T11.00 Gentlemen Prefer Blondes (1953) 1.00 Millions (2004) 3.05 A Monster in Paris (2011) 4.45 Biggles (1986) 6.30 Star Trek (2009) 9.00 The Sitter (2011) 10.40 Insidious (2010) 12.45 A Prophet (2009) 3.55 Close

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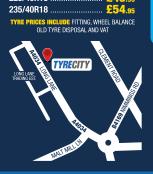
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CHOICE



Jack Dee

Channel 4's Comedy Gala 2015 (Channel 4, 9pm)

In 1852, the Hospital for Sick Children was founded. It had just 10 beds, but thanks to the patronage of such figures as Oueen Victoria and Charles Dickens, it quickly grew and soon Great Ormond Street Hospital, as it is now known, became a world-renowned centre for the treatment of sick children. Dickens was one of its first fundraisers, a role many famous personalities have adopted over the decades. The latest batch includes Aisling Bea, Alan Carr, Jack Dee, Jason Byrne, Jon Richardson, Josh Widdicombe, Trevor Noah, Michael McIntyre, Rich Hall and Warwick Davis, who are among those giving up their time to help raise cash via this annual concert at London's O2 Arena

6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 The Big Questions. 11.00 Show. 10.00 The Big Questions. 11.00 Sunday Politics. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 2.00 Flog It! (R) 2.40 The Truth About Your Teeth. (R) 3.40 Points of View. 3.55 Songs of Praise. 4.30 Nigel Stater: Eating Together. (R) 5.00 Countryfile.

6 OO BBC New

6.15 Regional Programme.

6.25 Live Formula 1: The Canadian Grand Prix. Suzi Perry introduces coverage of the seventh round of the season at the Circuit Gilles Villeneuve in Montreal (Start-time 7.00pm). World champion Lewis Hamilton is bidding to win this race for the fourth time, which would put him second on the all-time list of victors in Canada behind Michael Schumacher. Hamilton will be looking to get over the disappointment of his over the disappointment of his third-place finish in Monaco last time out, when what seemed like certain victory slipped through his grasp due to a tactical error by his team. Commentary by Ben Edwards and David Coulthard.

9.00 Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell.
Strange develops a growing
fascination with the magic of the fascination with the magic of the Raven King, an obsession which drives a wedge between him and Norrell, who becomes determined to stop him resurrecting the dark powers of ancient times. Strange tries to use his magic to cure King George III of his madness, but in doing so, he begins to suspect something terrible is furking unseen in the shadows. Drawlight is caught selling magical secrets, while the Gentleman seeks Stephen's aid in putting a stop to Stephen's aid in putting a stop to Strange's meddling.

10.00 BBC News. 10 20 Regional Programme

10.20 Hegional Programme.
10.30 Live at the Apoilo. Jack Whitehall hosts an evening of stand-up at the Apoilo in Hammersmith, London, introducing routines by Katherine Ryan and Rich Hall. (R)

11.15 Film: Blades of Glory. (2007) Rival figure skaters bury the hatchet after they discover a loophole enabling them to compete in the world championships as a same-sex pair. Comedy, with Will Ferrell.

12.45 Weather for the Week Ahead. 12.50 BBC News.

RRC2

6.00 The Big Allotment Challenge. (R) 7.00 Countryfile. (R) 8.00 Gardeners' 7.00 Countryfile. (R) 8.00 Gardeners' World (R) 8.30 Graatest Gardens 9.00 The Beechgrove Garden 9.30 Saturday Kitchen Best Biets 1.10.0 The Box (R) 11.30 The Box (R) 12.00 Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites (R) 12.30 Alex Polizzi Chefs on Trial. (R) 1.30 Live Athletics. The Sainsbury's Birmingham Grand Prix. 5.20 Hotel India. (R)

6.20 Film: Shall We Dance? (2004) A Film: Shall we bance? (2004) A bored worksholic lawyer becomes fixated with a beautiful dance teacher and enrols in her class. When she flatly rejects his advances, he decides to concentrate on perfecting his footwork — but keeps the new concentrate on perfecting his footwork – but keeps the new hobby a secret, making his wife very suspicious about the amount of time he is spending away from home. Romantic comedy, starring Richard Gere. Edited for daytime broadcast.

Normal Out 20 Haywiff broadcast.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Flona Bruce and the experts return to Richmond Park in west London, where members of the public gather at White Lodge, home of the Royal Ballet School, to find out the worth of various antiques and collectibles, Items include a table said to be made of timber from Old London Bridge, a Maori feather box, a patriotic musical chamber pot and an arist's brush pot bught in a junk shop more than 50 years ago. (R)

50 years ago. (R)

9.00 Armada – 12 Days to Save
England. Dan Snow concludes the
three-part drama-documentary
exploring the battle against the
Spanish Armada. The final episode
reveals the circumstances that led
to the defeat of the invasion force,
drawing on recently rediscovered
documents, and also explores how
victory enhanced Elizabeth I's
reputation as a world leader –
while many of the sallors who
fought in the battle died of
starvation and disease. Last in the starvation and disease. Last in the

10.00 Protecting Our Foster Kids. New series. A year in the life of Dorset County Council's fostering service A teenager hopes to settle down with a new family, but her foster parents face some hard choices.

11.00 Film: A Single Man. (2009)
12.30 Formula 1: The Canadian Grand
Prix – Highlights. 1.30 Sign Zone:
Countryfile. (R) 2.30 Holby City. (R) 3.30
This is BBC Two.

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate
Challenge. 6.25 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.35
Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.45
Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 7.00
Canimals. (R) 7.15 Sooty. (R) 7.30 Fort
Doyard Ultimate Challenge. (R) 8.25 IIV
News. 8.30 Weekend. 9.25 Judge
Rinder. (R) 10.25 Judge Rinder. (R)
11.25 Long Lost Family. (R) 12.20 ITV
News: Weather 12.30 Live International
Football. Republic of I reland v England
(Kick-off. 10.0pm). 3.10 Live French
Open Tennis. The men's singles final.
6.00 Regional Programme; Weather.
6.15 ITV News; Weather.

6.15 ITV News; Weather.

6.15 ITV News; Weather.
6.30 Catchphrase. Stephen Mulhern
hosts the revival of the game show
in which contestants guess the
familiar phrases hidden in
animated clues, before one of
them plays to win £50,000. (R)

them plays to win £50,000. (R)

7.15 Celebrity Squares. Warwick Davis hosts the quiz, with guests Sue Perkins, Keith Duffy, Sara Pascoe, Melanie Sykes, Ben Miller, Matt Richardson and Trevor Noah. Last in the series.

in the series.

8.00 Sunday Night at the Palladium.
Jack Whitehall introduces the
variety show, featuring Simply
Red, Leona Lewis, Jess Glynne,
Sara Pascoe and Britain's Got
Talent finalist Jack Carroll. Last in the series.

9.00 Home Fires. Frances takes in an nume Fires. Frances takes in all evacue from Liverpool, who is not what she expected. Erica is forced to face the consequences of her actions, while Miriam writes letters to soldiers on the front line that cause more harm than good. Laura and Richard's secret affair is ieopardised when someone sees jeopardised when someone sees them together, Teresa receives devastating news, and Claire mus decide whether or not to stand by

10.05 ITV News: Weather

10.20 International Football Highlights.
Republic of Ireland v England.
Action from the friendly encounter at the Aviva Stadium in Dublin, the

at the AVIVA Stadium in Dublin, the first meeting between the sides in Ireland for 20 years.

11.20 Vicious. Violet panics when her wealthy sister announces a visit, so she and her friends begin an elaborate plan to save her from humiliation. (R)

11.50 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Donny Osmond. (R)

12.50 Jackpot247. 2.30 Motorsport UK. (R) 3.20 ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 6.40 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 7.05 British GT. 7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch 12.30 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) 1.30 Film: We Bought a Zoo. (2011) Premiere. Fact-based comedy drama, starring Matt Damon. 3.55 Film: Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days. (2012) 5.50 Channel 4 News.

News.

6.10 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. A man wants a holiday home in Wales, near to his rowing club, while his wife would prefer France's Cote d'Azur. Laura Hamilton and Adrian Simpson help

them decide.

7.05 Location, Location, Location, Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer guide prospective buyers in the popular commuter county of Kent, where homes are snapped up quickly due to their proximity to London. (R)

8.00 For the Love of Cars. Philip For the Love of Cars. Philip Glenister and And Anstead look back over the hard work that has gone into restoring the vehicles featured in this series as a number of them are put up for sale. They attend a car auction to pick up some tips on these high-stakes events, and catch up with some of the motorists featured in the first series, who offer their advice on in the series. making a profit from a sale. Last in the series.

Channel 4's Comedy Gala 2015. The annual stand-up comedy concert in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity returns for a sixth year, with a host of stars appearing at London's OZ arena. Featuring Alsing Bea, Alan Carr, Jack Dee, Jason Byrne, Jon Richardson, Josh Widdicombe, Katherine Ryan, Kenn Bridges, Michael McIntyre, Paul Chowdhry, Rich Hall, Rob Beckett, Romesh Ranganathan, Russell Kane, Sara Pascoe, Sean Lock, Seann Walsh, Shappi Khorsandi, Trevor Noah and Warwick Davis. Channel 4's Comedy Gala 2015.

and Warwick Davis.

11.35 Lee Mack Live. The comedian's live show, performed at London's Bloomsbury Theatre, in which he touches on bizarre subjects, from pasty marketing to grandmothers snorting a powdered dessert. (R)

12.40 Film: Get Him to the Greek. (2010 2.30 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.45 River Cottage Bites. (R)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshakel: Peppa Pig. 6.05
Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) 6.15 Milkshakel.
Do Box. (R) 6.20 Angelina Ballerina (R)
6.00 Pig. (R) 6.70 Angelina Ballerina (R)
6.00 Pig. (R) 6.70 Angelina Ballerina (R)
6.00 Pig. (R) 6.70 Angelina Ballerina (R)
6.00 Pig. (R) 7.00 Pig. (R) 7.10 Pig. (R)
Milkshakel Monkey, R) 7.15 Roobarb
and Catard Too. (R) 7.20 Make Way for
Noddy, (R) 7.35 Paw Patol. (R) 7.50
Little Princess. (R) 8.00 Wanda and the
Alien (R) 8.15 Zack and Quack. (R) 8.25
Dily the Little White Van. (R) 8.30 Ben
and Holly S Little Kingdom. (R) 8.45
Little White Van. (R) 8.30 Ben
and Holly S Little Kingdom. (R) 8.45
Little Vinita Van. (R) 8.30 Den
and Holly S Little Kingdom. (R) 8.45
Little Vinita Van. (R) 8.30 Den
and Holly S Little Kingdom. (R) 8.45
Little Vinita Van. (R) 8.30 Den
Energia Silvaryovin. (R) 9.30 Dora and
Friends. (R) 10.00 Teenage Mutant Ninja
Littles. 10.35 Access. 11.4 03 Teo Dog
Rescuers. (R) 11.10 Littlimate Police
Interceptors. (R) 12.10 Benefits Prisan:
Life on the Dole. (R) 3.10 My Big Xmas
Benefits Blow-Out. (R) 4.10 Film: Open
Season. 3. (2010) Premiere Animated
adventure. with the voice of Matthew J
Munn. 5.40 Film: The Haunted Mansion.
(2003) Comedy, starring Eddie Murphy.
7.15 Film: The Wadding Date. (2005)

(2003) Comedy, starring Eddie Murphy.

7.15 Film: The Wedding Date. (2005)
A single woman is horrified by the thought of attending her sister's wedding alone, a task made all the more daunting by the presence of her ex-fiance. Taking the bull by the horns, she hires a male escort for the occasion – but her decision has unexpected results. Romantic comedy, starring Debra Messing, Jack Davenport. Amy Adams, Dermot Mulroney and Sarah Parish.

8.55 S News Weekend.

9.00 Big Brother. Daily round-up of

8.55 5 News Weekend.
9.00 Big Brother. Daily round-up of highlights, revealing how the housemates are getting on under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother in the aftermath of the recent eviction. Featuring the latest tasks, games, arguments, laughs, diaryroom visits and bedroom chitchat. Narrated by Marcus Bentley.
10.00 Film: Dark Sties, (2013) Premiere. A suburban American home attracts the attention of alien invaders, who wage a campaign of terror against its residents. Sci-fi horror, with Kerl Russell and Josh Hamilton.
11.50 Film: Crank: High Voltage. (2009)

11.50 Film: Crank: High Voltage. (2009) A hitman pursues a mobster who took his heart and replaced it with a machine that requires constant charging up. Action thriller sequel, starring Jason Statham.

1.35 SuperCasino. 3.10 Inside Manchester's Midland Hotel. (R

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great TV Mistakes 7.30 Top Gear
8.30 Match of the Day Live: Women
World Cup, Germany v Ivory Coast (Kickoff 9.00pm), 11.00 Family Guy 11.45
American Dad 112.05 Family Guy 12.30
Festivals, Sex & Suspicious Parents 1.30
Murder in Successville 2.00 Truly Madly
Wembley 3.00 Where Am I Sleeping
Tonight? 3.55 Close
BBC Four

7.00 Egypt's Lost Queens 8.00 Julie 7.00 cypyrs Loss duelins 8.00 Jille Walters in Conversation with Richard E Grant 9.00 Film: Billy Elliot (2000) 10.45 Timeshift: 1960 – The Year of the North 11.45 Top of the Pops: 1980 – Big Hits 12.45 I'm a Popstar 1.45 The Old Grey Whistle Test: 70s Gold 3.15 Close

ITV2

2.05 Take Me Out 1.20 Take Me Out—
The Gossip 2.05 Mr Bean 2.45 Film:
Hotel Transylvania (2012) 4.30 Film:
Jurassic Park III (2010) 6.15 Film: The
Amazing Spider-Man (2012) 9.00 Love
Island: Live 10.30 Film: Couples Retreat
(2009) 12.50 Mom 1.40 Fake Reaction
2.15 Teleshopping 5.45 ITV2
Nightscreen

11.00 Lewis 9.00 The One and Only Cilla Black 10.30 Lewis 12.40 Film: The Breakfast Club (1985) 2.20 Doctor in the House 3.10 ITV3 Nightscreen 3.15 Emmerdale

ITV4

11.15 Live British Touring Car
Championship. Round four from Outton
Park. 1.30 Live French Open Tennis. The
men's singles final. 3.15 Live British
Touring Car Championship. Round four
from Outton Park. 6.30 Storage Wars
7.00 Cycling 3.00 River Monsters 9.00

T 2015 10.00 Motorsport LIK Extra
11.30 Film: Road (2014) 1.45 TT 2015
2.45 ITVA Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping

E4
12.30 Made in Chelsea 1.35 Melissa & Joey 2.30 How I Met Your Mother 3.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 4.00 The Goldbergs 5.00 The Big Bang Theory 8.00 Film: The Simpsons Movie (2007) 9.45 Gogglebox 11.55 Rude Tube 12.55 Virtually Famous 1.45 Tattoo After Dark 2.40 New Girl 3.25 Hollyoaks

Film4
11.00 Titanic (1953) 1.00 Explorers
(1985) 3.15 Marley and Me (2008) 5.35
Australia (2008) 9.00 Bridesmaids
(2011) Comedy, starring Kristen Wijg.
11.30 The Station Agent (2003) 1.15
Rust and Bone (2012) 3.45 Close

We will be available to discuss a wide variety of **HALESOWEN GOLF CLUB** golf membership categories, Social membership, and the ideal venue for your social or business event. **Saturday 6th June 1pm** – **6pm** All will be Welcome to view and experience our facilities, including our new state of the art Golf Room with a prize winning putting challenge www.halesowenga.co.uk

ADVERTISEMENT

JOIN US AT OUR OPEN DAY



On Saturday 6th June Halesowen Golf club will be holding an Open Day.

Between 1.00pm and 6.00pm golfers, (Juniors, beginners and experienced), will be welcome to make enquiries regarding playing as members, visitors and societies, all members having the advantage of not having to pre-book tee times. Coaching is very important at Halesowen and PGA Professional Paul Johnson and his team offer a wide range of indoor and outdoor lesson packages and club fitting programmes to improve performance and they are available to visitors as well as members.





Visitors will be able to explore the English Heritage Grade 1 listed clubhouse to look at opportunities offered as a venue for Weddings, Christenings, and other Private Functions as well as the possibility of nongolfers joining as Social Members. England Golf Midlands Area Steward of the year 2013 and 2014, Dave Guest will be on hand to deal with all enquiries.

During the afternooon visitors will be encouraged to take part in a Putting Competition or perhaps just enjoy a drink and a snack on the patio overlooking the Grade 1 Listed Parkland Course with superb views of the Clent Hills and beyond.

Everyone welcome.... Just come along and enjoy the afternoon out.

FILM CHOICES

Carry On Screaming, ITV, 11.40pm

A sinister boffin, his sultry sister and two genetic misfits kidnap innocent women from spooky Hocomb Woods and turn them into mannequins – but two dimwitted detectives look set to throw a spanner in the works. Comedy horror, starring Kenneth Williams an Fenella Fielding. (1966)

Reign of Fire, BBC1, 11.20pm In the aftermath of decades of apocalyptic attacks by dragons, small pockets of survivors try to stave off the scaly fire-breathers. However, the meagre remains of the world's heavy artillery are not enough to stop them, so a small group of people joins forces with a zealous dragon slayer in a final bid to save the world from destruction. Fantasy adventure, with Christian Bale and Matthew McConaughey. (2001)



Fatal Friends, Channel 5, 3.10pm

Quiet teenage musician Ashlev is delighted when she befriends new student Michelle, until the girl shows worrying signs of being possessive. When a strange series of events threatens to disrupt Ashley's family, school life and a budding relationship, she realises she has to put a stop to Michelle's destructive behaviour. Thriller, starring Kristen Prout. (2015)

Smoke Screen, Channel 5, 3.15pm

Premiere. A reporter becomes involved in a murder investigation when she wakes up next to a corpse and cannot remember a thing about the night before Drama, with Jaime Pressly. (2010)

Total Recall, ITV, 11.10pm

A construction worker pays to have fake memories of a dream holiday implanted into his brain, but discovers his mind has already been tampered with – apparently to erase his true identity as a secret agent from a colony on Mars. He journeys to the planet in search of the truth, but is drawn into a conflict between the tyrannical ruler and a rebel faction. Paul Verhoeve sci-fi thriller, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. (1990)

Going behind the scenes at a legendary venue

ollywood may dominate our movie-going habits, but the British film industry has a lot to shout about. The BBC recently patted its own film-making arm on the back when it reached its 25th anniversary, and now it's turning its attention to the entire country's cinematic output entire country's cinematic output and it isn't exactly insubstantial.

"British film-making has always been defined by exceptional talents obert demirad by exceptional talents and maverick voices, championing the unique over the uniform," says Jonty Claypole, director of BBC Arts. "Working in close partnership with BFI, benefiting from their insight and expertise, this ambitious season crosses television, radio, online and cinema screens."

curiema screens:

Heather Slewart, Creative Director
of the BFI adds: "It's a thrill to work
alongside our partners at the BBC to
bring Britain's illustrious big screen
heritage to the UK's small screens,
and highlight some of British cinema's
greatest achievements to the widest
possible audience."

The Genius of British Cinema season really gets going today, with the 1958 version of A Tale of Two

Cities, starring Dirk Bogarde, kicking things off at 7am.

Then, at 9pm, comes Pinewood: 80 Years of Movie Magic, a feature-length documentary about the country's most famous studio.

tamous studio. It was founded in 1935 by J Arthur Rank, who had made his fortune from milling flour and had originally got into film-making as a way of promoting his Methodist beliefs. He joined forces with three other investors to turn Heatherden Hall and its surrounding land near liver Heath in Buckinghamshire into a studio that would rival anything in Hollywood.

Rank was, however, the driving force behind the project, and branched out into distribution and exhibition so that his movies would never be swamped by American products.

During the 1940s and 1960s, the Rank Organisation was behind some of the most memorable British films ever made, including A Matter of Life and Death, Henry V, Brief Encounter and Great Expectations.

figure, so much so that the house in which he was born in Hull recently underwent a refurbishment and was reopened with much pomp and eremony, including a muscleman with a gong – which was the symbol of his company.

He may have backed many films over the years, but arguably Rank's greatest creation was Pinewood itself. It's still going strong and is the home of Harry Potter and James Bond, while the forthcoming Star Wars sequels were also shot there.

In this programme, Ross meets some of the stars who have worked at Pinewood, including Barbara Windsor and Joan Collins, and even watches one of John Mills' finest films alongside his daughter, Hayley, who made Whistle Down the Wind there as a child star in the 1960s.

Producer and director Matthew Producer and director Mattnew Vaughn shares his memories of making Kick-Ass and Kingsman: The Secret Service (both co-written with Ross' wife, Jane Goldman), and discusses why the place is so important to makers of blockbusters.



Pinewood: 80 Years of Movie Magic, Saturday, BBC2, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

BBC1, 9pm

British society is forever evolving, and at the moment, of all the jobs in the public sector, the police force is arguably going through the biggest changes. This new fly-on-the-wall series takes an in-depth look at how the Metropolitan Police Service works, as viewers are taken behind the scenes of one of the country's most important institutions. The six-part show will hopefully illustrate the scale and complexity of policing London on a day-to-day basis, shining a light on how the Met works from root to branch – from Commissioner of Police Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe himself, down to the bobby on the beat. There's a look at everything from management board meetings to recruits being

thrown in at the deep end on their first day. And the

programme makers have promised not to shy away

from the issues, and get to the heart of what it's like

to be a policeman in modern Britain.

TUESDAY Running The Shop

Channel 4, 8pm New series. In this business-based challenge series, entrepreneur Hilary Devey persuades bosses from companies around Britain to leave their business for three weeks and let the staff take over. The first episode centres on family owned DIY homestore Taskers in Aintree. John Tasker leaves his staff £30,000 of his own money to improve the business as he steps down for a few days. However, it remains to be seen whether cashiers Tom and Debs can win over a whole new market. or if a clever advertising idea will bring in muchneeded customers.

WEDNESDAY DIY SOS: The Big Build

Nick Knowles and his crack team of builders, plasterers and electricians come to the aid of Frank and Christine Burrows in Wigan. In 2012, their 35-year-old son Mark was unprovoked attack that left him with severe brain damage. Mark now needs constant care, but the Burrows' family home is not yet fit for purpose, so Frank and Christine have been forced to take their son to a care home 15 miles away. With the help of designer Laurence Llewelyn Bowen, Nick's experts set about constructing a self-contained

BBC1, 9pm

UNIT, an elite team of law enforcers that operates beyond the jurisdiction of the police. UNIT's mission is to bring justice to the serious career criminals who have become accustomed to evading the full force of

Ash, a talented customs agent with a

troubled past, is head-hunted to join

two-bedroom bungalow, which will provide Nick with

the space, independence and security he needs to

the law, a goal that instantly appeals to Ash. who has a few scores to settle with certain highranking members of the underworld. Crime drama starring O-T Fagbenle.

THURSDAY BBC2, 9pm

FRIDAY

TFI Friday

Channel 4, 9pm

Remember the heady, Brit Pop-soaked days of the mid-to-late 1990s? Then prepare to feel very nostalgic indeed, as the era's must-see TV show TFI Friday, returns for an anniversary special. Okay, so the anniversary in question is its 19th – the series actually started in 1996 – but that only fits in with the anarchic TFI vibe. Chris Evans is back as the presenter, along with all the old gang, including Danny Baker and Will Macdonald.

devastated when lain Banks, author of The Crow

Road and The Wasp Factory, died in 2013, but his work continues to find a new audience – and this

two-part romantic mystery, adapted from his bestseller of the same name, should attract a few more converts. Christian Cooke heads the cast as

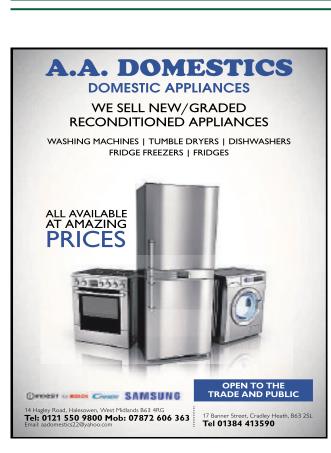
Stewart Gilmour, who was run out of his hometown of Stonemouth by his girlfriend Ellie's criminal

family, the Murstons. Now two years on, he's returning for his best friend Callum's funeral, and

Don Murston (Peter Mullan) makes it clear that he's still not welcome. Stewart doesn't want to leave until he gets to the bottom of Callum's apparent suicide,

but as he digs deeper he uncovers some unsettling

apartment alongside the Burrows' Running the Shop, Tuesday, Channel 4, 8pm novels were





LONGER!

FREE PARKING!

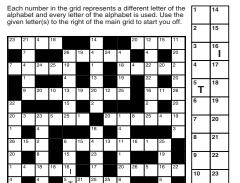


the fast ticket

BRAIN GYM

No.328

Codeword



Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

- Across

 1. The best sort of
- 1. The best sort of piano? (8)
 5. A word from a clever book on grammar (4)
 9. Complacent about receding gums? (4)
 10. From where the sun rises? (8)
 11. Priest shortly unwell on seeing
- unwell on seeing adornment (5) 12. Where soldiers heckle? (7) 13. Confidential information catches shy pair out in minister's
- office (13) office (13)

 18. Insinuation due to no mix-up at tavern (8)

 19. Clever putting of bulkhead in beer
- (4) 20. Let part talk child-
- ishly (7)

 21. Try out production of goods on the river (5)

 22. Nora changes to a mixed reddish
- colour (4) 23. Cheeky student got little devil to replace saint (8)

- 2. Compunction about code (7)
 3. Ring leg of fuss-pot
- (7)
- 4. Top acting directors smile on the right side of ship (9,4)
- 6. It's humbug to look at the laundry! (7) 7. Go to pieces at the end of term (5,2) 8. With justice put the
- magical creature about fifty (6) 13. Captain given
- certain rope? (7) 14. Is able to say childish bye-bye in religious composition (7)
- 15. Yet letters record these occurrences
- 16 With a blemish 17. Unfriendly act
 - causes giddy spasm (3-4)

Quick Clues:

1. Supplement (8)

- 5. Chances (4)
- 9. Release (4)
- 10. A murderer (8) 11. Rustic (5) 12. Gesticulation (7)
- 13. Unpleasant (13)
- 18. Germanic (8) 19 111 (4)
- 21. Lid (5)
- 22. Inform (4) 23. Harsh (8)
- 2. Confuse (7)
- 3. Raise (7) 4. Not important (13)
- 6. Agitate (7)
- 7. Genuine (7) 8. Fruit (6)
- 13. Pariah (7)
- 14. Diary (7) 15. Think fit (6)
- 16. Decamp (7)
- 17. Reading desk (7)

Sudoku Thinking space

PUZZLES



Fill in the grid below so that every column every row and each of the 3x

	SC		JΤ		VS				
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	1	8	2	5	4	6	7	9	1
	9	4	7	8	3	2	1	6	:
	3	6	5	1	7	9	8	2	Ŀ

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Dawdle; 4 Shower; 9 Call the police; 10 Evident; 11 Anels: 12 Again; 14 Psalm; 18 Lotto; 19 Relapse; 21 Inclined plane; 22 Desset; 29 Halses Down; 15 Devident; 24 Walse; 25 Desset; 26 Psalses; 20 Halses Down; 16 Devident; 24 Walse; 16 Halse; 13 Hornies; 15 Allied; 16 Halse; 17 Reselet; 8 Heats; 13 Hornies; 16 Allied; 16 Halse; 17 Reselet; 8 Heats; 13 Hornies; 16 Allied; 17 Harness; 11 Francy; 12 Harny; 14 Essay; 17 Barness; 10 Harness; 11 Francy; 12 Harny; 14 Essay; 18 Arnbit; 19 Answers; 6 Overstatement; 7 Roste; 8 House; 13 Retired; 15 Caress; 16 Steam; 17 Status; 20 Issue.

Quiz

What does the abbreviation ASLEF

- 2. Which war lasted from 1853-56? In which year did Louis Bleriot cross the English Channel?
- Which vegetable's scientific name is Brassica napobrassica?
- TAP is the airline of which country?
- 6. What is the more common name of Schubertís Symphony No. 8 in B Minor?
- 7. What is the middle name of Ronald Reagan?
- 8. What was the name of the dog that went into space in 1957? 9. In architecture, what is a campanile?
- 10. On which river does Berlin stand?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 The fear of heights; 2 Sir Anthony

Hopkins; 3 Bacchus; 4 Beethoven; 5 The

Mekon; 6 Na; 7 Victoria; 8 1967; 9 Judges

Niner: ARCHDUKES

Niner

gives an animal gives a second animal, gives a third animal.

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Manor Abbey Road

Halesowen

- Manor Abbey Road

 * A Lapal semi detached house

 * Superb extended open plan kitchen living room and dining room * Fitted cloakroom store/utility and lounge

 * Three bedrooms, well appointed bathroom * Pleasant good sized rear

Offers in the region of £299,500

Romslev



- Romsley Hill Grange
 Farley Lane

 * A secluded position with aspect onto
 the landscaped grounds and woodland

 * The ground floor apartment in a
 unique building (of just two apartments)

 * Three bedrooms (Principal en-suite)

 * Spacious kitchen/breakfast room and
 utility area * Open plan lounge and inner
 dining area * Double garage

 * A must view property EPC=D

 Offers in the region of £285,000

Halesowen



Kent Road

- Corner position Four bedrooms (one on the ground

- Four bearcoms (one on the ground floor)

 *Wet room/wc

 *House bathroom with shower cubicle and en-sulle shower

 *Detached garage (access via Highland Ridge)

 EPC=D

Offers in the region of £329.950



Welbeck Close

Halesowen

- Detached house Re-fitted kitchen/breakfast room
- Study and utility Two reception rooms
- * Four bedrooms one with en-suite * House bathroom * Double garage EPC=D

Halesowen

£370,000

Halesowen



- Blakedown Road
- Semi Detached Three Good Sized Bedrooms * Re-fitted Kitchen and Re-fitted Bathroom with Shower Cubicle
- * Garage * Lovely Rear Garden EPC=D

Offers in the region of £189,950

Smethwick



St. Marys Road

- * Two bedroom terraced house * In need of general modernisation and
- Offers in the region of £114.950

- * Two reception rooms EPC=tbc

Howley Grange Road

Halesowen

- Semi-detached In need of general modernisation Three bedrooms * Through living room * Small garage EPC=E

Offers in the region of £179,950



EPC=D £129,500

- New John Street
- Semi-detached Re-fitted kitche Three bedrooms & bathroom



- **Bishonton Road** Mid-terraced house Lounge and dining room Two bedrooms

- * Two bedrooms
 * Bathroom
 * Double glazed windows, gas boiler
 heating radiators
 * Enclosed yard and garden
 EPC=tbc
 Offers in the region of £159,950



Carters Lane

- Four good sized bedrooms
- Offers in the region of £269.950

The Hide

New John Street

- Brand new semi-detact...
 Ideal first purchase
- 2 Bedrooms, shower room
 Fitted kitchen with oven and hob
 Lounge with French doors to gardens
 Double Glazed windows, gas boiler heating radiators
 * Off road parking for two vehicles
 EPC=C
 £137,500

Halesowen

Oldbury



Pound Road

- Semi detached house Recently re-planned and modernised Two reception rooms
- Kitchen with breakfast area
- EPC=D
 Offers in the region of £189,950



Oldbury



Swan Crescent

- Kitchen/dining roon Three bedrooms Off road parking
- Offers in the region of £135,950

Rowley Regis

- Darby Street

 * Semi-detached bungalow

 * Close to Blackheath town centre

 * Reception hall, lounge, kitchen

 * Bedroom, bedroom 2/dining room,
- Pleasant gardens, off road parking, gas boiler radiators EPC=D Offers in the region of £130,000



Hayley Park Road

- Two Reception Rooms
 Breakfast Room
- Conservatory
 Three Bedrooms
 Shower Room

* Garage EPC=E Fixed Price £299,995

Halesowen



The Rosegardens

Two further bedrooms House bathroom

Ine Kosegardens

* Spacious house planned on three
floors * Fitted kitchen/breakfast room/
fitted cloakroom * Lounge leading to
conservatory/dining room

* Principal bedroom with en-suite

* Enclosed gardens, carport and parking space * Double glazed windows, gas boiler heating radiators EPC=C

Offers in the region of £185,000

Halesowen



Narrow Lane

- Traditional style semi-detached house Three bedrooms and shower services
- Three bedrooms and shower room
 Lounge, dining room and fitted kitcher
 Utility room, side garade, good sized gardens * Gas boiler heating radiators, double
- glazed windows
 * A must view property EPC=D
 Offers in the region of £229,950

Middlefield Avenue

**Semi detached house

*Through living room and dining room
and extended kitchen

- Utility and wc Four bedrooms
- Offers in the region of £224,950

Garage Good sized rear garden EPC=D

Hicks Hadley

hickshadley.com 0121 585 6667

Four-bedroom home has views next to golf course



COURTLANDS Mucklow Hill, backs on to Halesowen Golf

It is for sale through Taylors Estate Agents at £399,950. It has a porch, entrance hall, cloak store, through lounge with patio doors, dining room, kitchen opening to a breakfast room area, lobby, store, WC, side verandah, garage, a super large re-fitted bathroom with a white suite and four good sized bedrooms. The gardens are a great feature. Call 0121 5503978 or visit the website www.taylors-es tateagents.co.uk







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Halesowen, Briefly comprising of: 3 bedrooms, large lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom with separate w.c, driveway parking & garage, double glazing, gas central heating (new boiler)





RIDGE, Trinity Road£725 pcm+Fee: ally refurbished detached house in this very popula et cul-de-sac position comprising of: brand new kitche



which is not to be missed features 4 good size bedroom 1 large reception room, fitted kitchen with dishwasher an











, Bethesda Gardens£575 pcm+Fee delighted to present a 2 bedroom 2nd floi operty is double glazed and centrally heated. Th approached via a secure intercom system an recention hall modern onen plan lunner/kitche



bed semi house features, lounge, fitted kitchen, conservator











KIDDERMINSTER, Bewdley Road£425 pcm+Fees ground floor flat close to town centre & hospital comprising of: large living room, large double bedroom, fitted kitch /ith oven/hob, bathroom with shower, gas central heating





Kidderminster Train Station featuring: double bedro arge bathroom, open plan lounge/kitchen, allocated parkin



HALESOWEN, Lyde Green £395 pcm+Fees Located on the popular Homer Hill Estate in Halesowen is thi tchen, double bedroom, bathroom with shower, commun



A well presented, unfurnished 1st floor apartment, close to th M5 J2. This apartment features 2 bedrooms, fitted kitche ounge, double glazing, bathroom with shower, parking spa and parking area for visitors, communal gardens. EPC: [



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OHINTON £300,000 **NORMAN ROAD, SMETHWICK**

4 DOUBLE bed extended semi detached property, occupying a pleasant position:-2 reception rooms, EXTENDED re-titted breakfast kitchen, d/s shower room, off road parking and pleasant, good sized rear garden.. EPC TBC;. BEARWOOD OFFICE.

BEARWOOD

£249,950

QUINTON



DETACHED home with SOUTHERLY rear garden. 16ft lounge leading to 12ft dining area with 10ft CONSERVATORY to rear. FITTED 12ft10 kitchen with appliances. 3 bedrooms all over 12ft & family bathroom. BLOCKPAVED driveway & carport. Rear garden having 17ft outbuilding. GCH fitted. EPC rating: D

£249,995

WOODBURY ROAD, HALESOWEN

EXTENDED family home with GARAGE & driveway. 25ft lounge diner, separate breakfast room & REFITTED 13ft kitchen. D/S WC. 5 bedrooms (4 DOUBLE) & REFITTED family bathroom. Garden having SOUTHERLY aspect. UPVC DG & GCH. EPC rating: D Ref: D1620

QUINTON £245,000



EXTENDED semi-detached home with DRIVEWAY in CUL-DE-SAC position. NO UPWARD CHAIN. L-shaped large lounge diner & REFITTED kitchen. 3 bedrooms & REFITTED bathroom. Part GARAGE & parking to the front. Lawn garden to rear. GCH & majority UPVC DG fitted. EPC rating: C Ref: D1624

£179,950

QUINTON

SHERWOOD ROAD, SMETHWICK

SPACIOUS & EXTENDED home close to Bearwood High Street & parks. Reception room to front & OPEN PLAN kitchen diner to rear leading to lean-to utility room. REFITTED family bathroom & 3 bedrooms on first floor. Low maintenance gardens. Gas central heating & majority UPVC DG. EPC rating: Ref: D1568

£175,000



PARK AVENUE, ROWLEY REGIS

EXTENDED home with 3 DOUBLE bedrooms. REFITTED 12ft kitchen leading to CONSERV-ATORY. 18ft lounge diner & separate study. Fitted bedroom furniture in bedroom 1.
REFITTED family bathroom & REFITTED shower room. GARAGE & driveway. UPVC DG & GCH fitted. EPC rating: D Ref: D1608



EXTENDED semi-detached home in CUL-DE-SAC position. GARAGE en-bloc & rear garden having SOUTHERLY aspect. 16ft lounge diner & UPVC CONSERVATORY. Utility room & d/s WC. 3 GOOD SIZE bedrooms & family bothroom.

Benefits from ATTIC ROOM. UPVC DG & GCH. EPC rating: D

QUINTON

QUINTON

£139,950





NO UPWARD CHAIN. REFITTED kitchen & 2 separate reception rooms. D/S shower room with WHITE SUITE. 3 bedrooms on 1st floor potential to convert bedroom 3 into bathroom. Extensive & private rear garden. GCH & majority UPVC DG fitted. EPC rating: E

QUINTON



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BEARWOOD

QUINTON

WELL PRESENTED 3 bed home in CUL-DE-SAC. Entrance hall, delightful through lounge/dining area, utility, REFITTED kitchen, useful store room/hobby room. REFITTED shower room, drive providing off road parking and pleasant rear garden. MUST BE VIEWED. EPC tbc,

ST KATHERINES RD, OLDBURY

BEARWOOD



WELL PRESENTED & EXTENDED end terraced home. 2 reception rooms with feature fireplaces. 20ft REFITTED kitchen with appliances & d/s WC. 2 DOUBLE bedrooms & bathroom with shower upstairs. Extensive lawn rear garden. GCH & double glazed. EPC rating: TBC

QUINTON

FRANCIS ROAD, SMETHWICK

SPACIOUS, 2 DOUBLE bed end terraced property, conveniently situated, requiring internal inspection, having majority DG,CEntrance vestibule, attractive lounge, breakfast kitchen, D/S WC, UPSTAIRS bathroom, and pleasant well maintained rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC F.

REAFWOOD

£120,000



REFIITED 12ft kitchen & 2 separate reception rooms. REFITTED downstairs bathroom with white suite. 2 DOUBLE bedrooms on 1st floor. UPVC DG & GCH fitted, Extensive lawn rear garden. EPC rating: D

THRONE RD, ROWLEY REGIS

WELL PRESENTED home with BLOCKPAVED driveway to front. 14ft lounge with FITTED kitchen & utility room. REFITTED family bathroom with white suite. 3 600D SIZE bedrooms. Lawned rear garden with SW aspect. UPVC DG & GCH fitted. EPC rating: D



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Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns

AIR ARMS 177 TX 200 Mk2/3 air rifle, complete with AOE, gun slip, mint condition £275 ono. 07790 930484.

SYNDICATE VACANCY IN DIY SMALL PHEASANT AND DUCK SHOOT, Henley in Arden, Warwickshire. Call Brian 07779 675487.

pets corner

NOTICE TO READERS Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:

purchasing from a Puppy

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.

2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.

3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

ADORABLE CHIHUAHUA pups, 2 girls 11 weeks old, wormed and injections. £650 each. Mom and Dad can be seen. 01902 651019.

CANARARY CAGES, Red Polls Silvers, Isabells and normals for sale. 07814 444909.

COCKERPOO PUPPIES, family reared, vaccinated, vet checked, ready now, £500. 07790 660541.

KIND HOMES WANTED SHARNIAThree year old beau-tiful small bearded collie.

BUSTER Young Jack Russell x Staffie, happy boy, loves every body, MAX 18 month old Jack Russell, lively little boy, no other dogs or small children.

TRIXIE Border Collie approx 6 months old.

01588 676106 KIND HOMES WANTED

TOBYLab X Border Collie. Three years old.

BEN Lab X Border Collie. Three years old. These two lovely boys have not had a good life so far, they are shy gentle dogs who need a calm. understanding home. they are very anxious to please and are very needy at the moment but they would make perfect pets.

Call 01588 676106.

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Property

accommodation

to let

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offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the regis-tration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

let.

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DHSS welcome, 30 plus, no pets,
deposit required. 07780 704435.

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ONE AND TWO BED Flats, W'ton, Tipton & Dudley. DSS ok, no dep req. Call / text 07482 565207.

PENN, room to let in modern house with shower and kitchenette £425pcm. 07903 540397.

SMART ROOMS in shared house Netherton, from £85 pw inc bills, No DSS, Small deposit 07940 116130

property



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business

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premises sale / let

directory

commercial

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IMMACULATE

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IMMACULATE

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PEUGEOT 206CC 1.6 cabriolet, 04 reg, 69k, silver, MoT, excellent condition, £1,695 onc. 07913 981460. PEUGEOT 207 S, 2010, 41,000 miles, auto, air con, alarm, MoT, auto, alloys, all auto electric. £4,900 ono. 07581 445563.

SEAT ALTEA FR TDI 170 diesel 2006, 86,400 miles, silver/blue long MoT, excellent condition, 63,950 one E3,950 ono. 07873 580368 or 01384 829176.

SEAT IBIZA 1.2 ST, 2012, stereo/CD, EW, 5 speed petrol. FSH, 1 former keeper, immaculate condition, 24,995. 07460 116516. SUZUKI SWIFT 1.5GLX, 56 plate, 3 door grey excellent condition lady aoor, grey, excellent condition, lady owner, low mileage (38,000) £3,800. 01902 845395.

VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN AUTO, 2005, 61,000 miles, excep-tional condition £1,950. 0121 550 8821 / 07976 750083.

8821707976 750083.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 16V SXI
PLUS 56 reg, dark red, FSH, 1 previous owner, only 24k miles, MoT,
alloys, 3dr. £2,495. 07973 831161. VAUXHALL TIGRA 1600. 08. 40k 11 mths Mot. Black, silver roof. Eco nomical on fuel. Excellent conditio throughout. £3,800. 07462 12194k

VAUXHALL VECTRA SRi, 1.8, petrol, 08 silver, alloy wheels, MoT December 15, 88,000 miles, £2,995 ono. 07956 259404.

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VOLKSWAGEN UP 2013 (62 plate) 7,500 genuine miles, Black, Full MoT, CD player. Immaculate condi-tion. Bargain. £4,950 07861714569 VW TRANSPORTER T5 Kombi, 05 2.5 auto, diesel, green, top spec fsh, full MoT, new tyres, low mileage, £11,500 o.n.o. 07733 777999.

cars under £1500

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that the Business Advertise-ments (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

CHEVROLET TACUMA SX, 55 reg., 1.6 netrol, 61 000 miles from new

petrol, 61,000 miles from fsh, 7 months MoT, £675.
 Telephone 07975 626073.

FIAT MULTIPLA MPV Petrol 1596cc, grey, 12 months MoT, dis-abled tax, any trial £650 ono. 01902 681407.

FORD KA, 04, red, 66k, long MoT, alloy wheels, stereo. Great condition, cheap to run. £895 ono. 07535 074158.

FORD FIESTA 1.3, 02 plate, 72,000 miles, new tyres, MoT, grey, good runner, 2650 ono. 07754 730270 or 01902 540730.

FORD FIESTA 2006, 12 months No. T. E./W. RCL, Service history, excellent condition, inside and out. £995. 07908 248630. FORD FIESTA LX 2004, 3-dr, MoT till March 2016, air bags, EW, AC,

one previous owner, Please call 01902 65558 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 2001 106.000 Miles, black, long MoT central locking, Alloys, Stereo, CD £700.00 ono 01902 773214

FORD FOCUS EDGE 1.8 diesel, 54 reg, 115hp, 5 door, 57,000 miles, 54 rege 4 months MoT. Good conreg, 115hp, 5 door, 57,000 re/w, pas, 9 months MoT. Good dition. £1,250. 07989 243426

FORD KA 1300, 2001, excellent runner, MoT to August, 80k, cheap to run, lady owner, ideal first car, £495 o.n.o. 07909 158863.

FORD MONDEO 1.8, 54 reg, 80k, 12 months MoT, a/c, e/w, CD, alloys, 3 owners, £1,195 ono.
Telephone 07730 496811.

HONDA CIVIC Estate, S reg, 1.6 silver, good runner, 81,800 miles, £550. 01384 374952.

JAGUAR S TYPE 2.5, FSH, 02 excellent condition, blue, manual long MoT, drives great, £950 01384 440258 or 07935 337167. JAGUAR S TYPE 2.5, FSH, 02 excellent condition, blue, manual

long MoT, drives great, £950 01384 440258 or 07935 337167. PEUGEOT 106 2000, 1.5, diesel MoT Sep, tidy little car, low mileage for year, cheap to run. £350ono 07773 354042. 07703 548050.

PEUGEOT 206. X reg., 116,000 miles. Excellent condition, FSH, 1 lady owner, New clutch and head gasket. £600. 01902 781501.

PEUGEOT 206 Y 2001, 5dr, silver, 11 months MoT, 2 new tyres, 62,700 miles, lady owned, very reli-able, £650 ono. 07544 886063.

PEUGEOT 206cc CABRIOLET 2003, FSH, 1.6, low mileage, 36k MoT, £1,500 ono. 0797 1157226 o 01902 842733. PEUGEOT 206CC S, 2002, 73,000 miles, blue, air con, MoT, auto, central locking, alloys, CD. Cat C repaired. Quick sale. £1,000 ono. 07768 261696.

PEUGEOT 307 EST 52 reg, all electric, new clutch/ exhaust, just need

valeting hence price £700 ono 01902 401183 / 07478 730076. PEUGEOT 307 HDi

or part exchange or Peugeot Expert or similar. 07899 497967.

RENAULT MEGANE 1.5TDI 2006, 96 000 Miles, Black, elec-tric windows/mirrors, air con, alarm, MoT, diesel, sunroof, tax, Alloys, CD, Alloy wheels, tinted rear windows £1,499 ono 07784541129

RENAULT CLIO RT 1.4 AUTO. 5dr

RENAULT LAGUNA 1.8, 2003, 64k very good condition, 9 months MoT first to see will buy, £850 ono 01384 621507 or 07535 696469. RENAULT SCENIC 2005, auto 1.6cc, alloys, fully loaded, 66k miles, MoT, FSH, lovely condition and runner. £1,095. 07577 488580

RENAULT SCENIC 2005, auto 1.6cc, alloys, fully loaded, 66k miles, MoT, FSH, lovely condition and runner, £1.095, 07577 488580

ROVER 75 CLUB T 53 plate, silver 85,000 miles, good condition, new turbo and cylinder head, offers for quick sale. 01384 274809. TOYOTA YARIS 102,922 miles, 51 plate, MoT Aug, serviced March 15, 5-dr hatchback red, good condition. 2650 ono. 07807 068304.

VAUXHALL AGILA X reg, 136k, good condition and reliable, MoT December. £450 ono. 01902 791413.

VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 16v LS, X reg, 85,000 miles, green, MoT April 2016, good runner, good condition, £450 ono. 07891 515511 after 3pm.

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ClassifiedAds

VAUXHALL VECTRA 1800 petrol, 03, silver, alloy wheels, MoT till Dec, good condition, 98,000 miles, £550 ono. 01384 860584.

VOLVO SE40, 2001, 180,000 miles, beige, spares or repair, alloys, good

classic cars

CLASSIC CARS WANTED Private cash buyer Instant cash settlement. Any age. any condition. Call Market Drayton. 01630 652993.

commercial vehicles

FORD TRANSIT CONNECT T230 white, 1.8 diesel, CL, EW, air con, 1 owner, very clean van, 93,365 miles, MoT Feb 2016, £5,000 +VAT. 07850 733370.

FORD TRANSIT, R Reg., white, 12 months MoT, clean and tidy, 120,000 miles only, £775 o.n.o. 01384 626755 or 07936 282473.

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WHITE VAN. 1.6 DIESEL,
Brand new in June 2013, three
seater all manoeuvrable to
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five door, sliding door on passenger side, fitted blue
tooth.CD and radio, interior juned,
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motorbikes

CLASSIC KAWASAKI Z650, 1977 arts, £1,800.

HONDA CB250 NIGHTHAWK

HONDA 650cc NTV Excellent condi-tion, 17,595 miles only. £1,500 ono.

MoT. Good condition, £510. o.n.o.

YAMAHA Fazer 600cc. 8 mths MoT 13k, very good condition. Carrier bags, tomtom, many extras. £1,475 onc. 0121 357 5026/07767 813071

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

CHOICE 07895 346811- 24 hrs

ABC AUTO SALVAGE WANTED URGENT Scrap & MOT Failures Best Prices Paid ELV Registered Spares Always Available 0121 557 0800 or 0121 557 0400. Evening 07813 184611 Oldbury Area.

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LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to Marie Hogg on 01902 713146

or email marie.hogg@ expressandstar.co.uk (remember to include name/contact number to confirmation of receipt)

Personals

general

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WEDNESFIELD UNDER 16'S GIRLS
Are currently looking for new players to join their well established football teamfor the up coming 2015/16 season. Players must be in school years 10 & 11 from September. Training 7 till 8 every Wednesday @ Wednesfield football club, Amos Lane, WV11 1ND. For more information please contact Craig Ranford on 07980 482544, also see our facebook page Wednesfield Girls FC.

personal



Very good sense of humour own house and car. No ties TM attractive female 50-57
Friendship hopefully leading
to more.
Photo please (returned).
Box Number P19845,

Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.



CHASING DREAMS

Gornal guy 58, young at heart GSOH, own home and car, nor smoker, enjoys walks, old pubs, car boots, meals in / out, visiting car boots, frietais in / but, visiting interesting places, music, cosy nights, WLTM local kind trustworthy loving Female, slimish build for romance, friendship and see where it leads to. Photo a must, will return.

Box Number P19853,

Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.



LONELY WIDOWER
VERY YOUNG AT HEART
Mid 70's, WLTM genuine,
honest, reliable lady, similar
age, medium build, home lover,
for companionship- more if
compatible.

compatible.

I have my own home and car.
Like to eat in and out, enjoy some nights in with home comforts.

Stourbridge area.
Box Number P19854,
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Queen Street,
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WIDOWER, 70'S SEEKING FEMALE, 60'S. Educated. Slim/medium. Non smoking. Car owner. Close to Tettenhall WV6.

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sports clubs



DUDLEY SPORTS FC UNDER 17'S 2015/16 SEASON

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For more details call or text Tony 07804 779106 or Carl 07971 788746

email available on request.



PENN COLTS FC 5 / 7 A SIDE TOURNAMENT U7'S minor - 8 / 10 / 12 / 14 / Under 16's

Saturday, July 4. U7'S / 9 / 11 / 13 / 15. Sunday, July 5.

For all application form visit www.penncolts.co.uk or call 07748 677682.

SELL IT LOCAL 01902 317878



MakingFriends



per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

SUSANNAH, 48, curvy female, romantic, warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship with lots of

romantic, warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship with lots of cuddles and kisses. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417341

JEAN, shy brunette with lots of love to give to the right man, seeks mature male to share relationship with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417285

FUN loving and independent hot woman looking for a sexy man for fun and maybe more, GSH and grey hair preferable! Text only to Mailbox No: 4709317

KIND caring lady early 30s, 5ft5, slim fair hair looking for long-term relationship in Learnington Spa area. Text only to Mailbox No: 4527227

STELLA 50, gorgeous, voluptuous and all woman seeks sensual older male, who knows just what he wants for lots of naughty fun and TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707

SANDY, mature, very young looking widow seeks fit young man to enjoy fun, cuddles and kisses. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417581

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel No: 0906 500 1912 Box 413399

38yrs, married but seeks no strings fun with discreet man, any age. I'm tall, slim and dom-inant. Aca. Tel No: 0906 500 1913 Box 415301

GINA, attractive slim blue eyed blonde, loves to cook, looking for her soul mate seeks tall male for lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417419 🗎

curvy affectionate real woman! Seeks gent, any age or looks for nights at mine. Tel No: 0906 500 1914 Box 410291

ZARA 5ft 4ins, slim, single mum, honest, caring, likes walks, seeking genuine male, 45-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417513

TARA, confident lady, long legs, long hair, seeks a saucy man of any age for daytime, no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 515 4693 Box 414701

her soul mate seeks tall male for lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417419

THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving, honest, funny male to pamper and make happy.Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416379

416979 U FEMALE, kind caring and loving seeks similar male for relationship text only all texts answered. Text only Mailbox No: 4655519 PRETTY slim female, 48, N/S,

no ties, seeks tall, slim level headed male for initial friendship and evenings out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416727

FEMALE, kind caring and loving seeks similar male for relationship text only all texts answered. Text only Mailbox No: 4655519 HI my name is Zara. I am 5ft 4ins, slim build. I am looking for a genuine male aged between 45 and 50 with gsoh who enjoys going out. Text only Mailbox No: 4362903

LISA, 31yr old petite bundle of fun looking for fun, easygoing, genuine guy. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500

3955 Box No: 417223 3955 BOX No: 417223 ☐ LINDA, 47, brown-eyed blonde, caring, loving and honest, many interests, seeks genuine male to share lonely evenings with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417211 ☐

FEMALE seeking gent 55-70, down to earth, nice and intelligent who knows how to treat a lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417195

KATHERINE, romantic, slim, feminine, loves to live life to the full, seeks adventurous outgoing male to appreciate and share life with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417091 🖺

SHERRIE 32, blonde, great company, loves going out, looking to share life with that special someone.

special someone. Status/Looks/age unimportant.Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417067 KAREN 50, blonde hair, blue eves, slim, GSOH, loving, caring,

eyes, slim, GSOH, loving, caring, understanding, seeking similar male, 55-55. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416989 🗒

Men seeking women

JAMES GSOH, likes theatre meals out, socialising, seeking easy going female, 35-55. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417469

WIDOWER 70 plus, seeking female for friendship. Love n love my dog. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417439

FFT black male, medium-well built, attractive, friendly, outgoing, seeks slim, attractive female, 30-45 for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 334003

TALL medium build male, GSOH, seeking partner, 40-80, likes theatre, music, dancing, day or night meets. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417391

PHIL 57, OHAC, discreet, seeks no strings fun with younger female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955

Box No: 414991

COLIN 48, kind, loving, seeks cuddly large lady for love, Itr and romance, must like hugs/kisses/cuddles. Looks unimportant. Text only to Mailbox No: 4730876

NICK 52, 6ft, slim, genuine, seeking slim female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415881

GENUINE 56yr old male divorced, OHAC, looking for nice lady for friendship, may Wolverhampton. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405551

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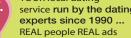
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At Bo'ness enjoy a journey on the Bo'ness and Kinneil Railway, which follows the shore of the Firth of Forth before climbing a tree-lined gradient with spectacular views. The train then continues on through the woodlands of Birkhill, crosses the Avon viaduct, and through open countryside towards Manuel

Afterwards travel to the buzzing city of Edinburgh, where there will be some free time to explore before arriving at the magnificent Edinburgh Castle for the highlight of the break, the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Please note that visitors will be required to climb a hill to reach the castle*

The programme will include popular performances such as Massed Pipes and drums, Military bands and the Lone Piper, as well as display teams and dancers

At Loch Katrine in the heart of the Trossachs, join the 45-minute circular cruise on the SS Sir Walter Scott, a great way to take in the scenery. During the cruise passengers can also learn of the tales and legends of the loch. A visit to the small town of Aberfoyle is also made for some free time.

The final included visit is to the UK's marriage capital Gretna Green, where there is time to visit the Old Blacksmith's Shop centre or choose to dine in a selection of eateries, before the return journey home.

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- Circular cruise on the SS Sir Walter Scott
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Visits to Edinburgh, Aberfoyle and Gretna Green
- Services of a tour manager



Three days departing September 18

Visit the magical Alnwick Garden, one of the most talked about and remarkable garden transformations of recent times and Lindisfarne, only accessible at low tide via a narrow causeway.

The first stop will be the ancient city of Durham where there will be time to visit the iconic cathedral and castle, or browse the stylish boutiques and quirky craft

At Lindisfarne take in the fabulous views, visit the romantic Lindisfarne Castle and the ancient Priory ruin, and find out about island life at the Lindisfarne Centre (all entrance fees payable locally). Then a stop will be made at the coastal village of Bamburgh, dominated by a great sandstone castle overlooking the Farne Islands, where there will be chance to enjoy some more free time.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Return coach travel
- Visits to Durham and Lindisfarne
- Tour of Northumbria's heritage coastline
- Entrance to The Alnwick Garden
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability supplement applies

Newmarket Holidays (ABTA V787X)

The magnificent Alnwick Garden was designed for every season. From fragrant roses to mirror-polished water features, there is always something to admire

Wind your way through the Serpent Garden's topiary to find the water features hidden in its coils, discover the riotous colours and delicate scents of the Rose Garden with over 3000 David Austin Roses and take a walk through the beautiful Woodland Walk and try to spot the resident red squirrels.

The Ornamental Garden is home to the country's largest collections of European plants in striking geometric beds, whilst the Treehouse, one of the world's largest wooden tree houses, is where visitors can walk along the wobbly rope bridges and treetop walkways.

There is also the chance to visit Alnwick Castle (entrance payable locally), which was used as the location for Brancaster Castle in the latest Downton Abbey Christmas special, and has many rooms and exhibitions

Strawberry Fields, Penny Lane and the Cavern Club



Three days departing September 19

Enjoy a nostalgia-packed Beatles coach tour of the places where the history of popular music was changed forever, and journey on the legendary Ferry 'cross the Mersey on this three day break

The coach tour will bring to life the world of Strawberry Fields and Penny Lane. See where John and Paul first met, where the quartet grew up, the poignant 'Eleanor Rigby' sculpture and other places connected with four of the 20th century's most iconic figures.

There will also be chance to visit to the Cavern Club itself - one of Britain's most legendary music venues.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- A Beatles coach tour
- Entrance to the Cavern Club A cruise on the Ferry 'cross the Mersey
- Free time in Liverpool
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability Newmarket Holidays (ABTA V787X)

- supplement applies

Liverpool from a whole perspective on the Ferry 'cross the Mersey cruise. The on-board commentary will bring to life the famous landmarks on a fascinating 50-minute journey, before enjoying some free time the city to explore at

Then see the city of

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PRICE INCLUDES:

- Three nights half-board accommodation
- Entrance to Buckingham Palace
- Flight on the London Eye Entrance and guided tour of
- the Houses of Parliament
- Visit to Royal Windsor Visit to Henley-on-Thames
- Free time in London Single rooms subject to availability
- supplement applies

Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Also included is a flight on the London Eye its spectacular London plus visits to Henley-on-Thames, a pretty riverside market town and Windsor with its spectacular castle (entrance payable locally).

There is also the chance to enjoy some free time in London.





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Ford Focus is getting even better

By Anthony Martyn

Every once in a while, a car is launched that instantly makes all of its rivals look stupid and old. Ford pulled off that particular trick back in 1998, when it launched the Mt 1 Focus. The way it drove was a revelation. and now we are on the fourth incarnation.

Ford has subtly tweaked the handling, making changes to the suspension to improve the ride and slightly lightening the steering. As a result, it's a better long-distance travelling companion

long-distance travelling companion.

The engine range has also been much revised. Let's start with petrol power. Though at the foot of the range, it's still possible to get the old-tech 1.6-litre Ti-VCT unit in 85, 105 and 125PS guises, the mainstream petrol line-up is these days primarily based around the brand's clever 1.0-litre three cylinder turbo EcoBoost unit, offered with either 100 or 125PS

Above that now sits a 1.5-litre EcoBoost unit, offered with either 150 or 182PS. EcoBoost technology is also used in the hot hatch models, with a 2.0-litre 250PS unit used in the Focus ST and a 2.3-litre 320PS powerplant used in the top Focus RS.

Those in search of a diesel have a choice between the oldrech 1.6-litre TDCi units, offering either 95 or 115PS. Or newtech 1.5-litre TDCi engines offering either 95 or 120PS. Make sure you know what you're getting.

Above these, there's an uprated 150PS 2.0-litre TDCi unit, also offered in 185PS guise to Focus ST buyers. Otherwise, the only other option is the intriguing Focus Electric model which uses a combination of a 107kW electric motor and a 23kW lithium-ion battery to deliver a useful 142PS and 250Nm of torque.

Many will baulk at the restricted 100-mile driving range

Many will baulk at the restricted 100-mile driving range though.

Distinctive

It's only when you put this improved Focus next to the original third generation version that you realise just how much more expensive this model looks.

The most obvious change is the addition of an Aston Martin-style trapezoidal front grille, there to give the front end a more distinctive look also emphasised by subtle chrome detailing and these slimmer, smarter front headlights and restyled frolumns.

The interior has also been given a serious once-over. The fascia design is more intuitive, that button-strewn centre stack and steering wheel being tidled up considerably.

The black satin trim and chrome detailing contribute to a cleaner aesthetic too. Many of the controls are now marshalled by the SYNC 2 high-resolution, 8in colour touch screen system. This includes voice control for 'easier' access to audio, navigation, climate control and compatible mobile phones.

One thing that's undoubtedly an improvement is practicality. The centre storage console offers more space as well as a new sliding, integrated armrest, accommodating a variety of bottles and cups with the capacity to simultaneously hold a litre water bottle and a 400ml cup.

It's actually quite hard to know where to start when trying to explain the Focus model range to an unfamiliar buyer. It is, after all, so vast. Still, we'll do our best. The simplest aspect is the availability of just two bodystyles, a five-door hatch or, for a model-for-model premium of around £1,100, a smartly-styled estate option.

Most of the mainstream petrol variants offer the option of automatic transmission too. It's the under-the-bonnet issues though, that require Focus buyers to really know the ropes when it comes to the selection process.

Let me explain why.

Focus' is the world's best selling global nameplate – with good reason. Has any car had more of an impact on modern era motoring than the Ford Focus?

With over 12 million global sales on the board, it's hard to argue the point.

Standard equipment on 1 Series better than ever before

By Ian Donaldson

When a car as important to BMW as its 1 Series hatchback comes around for a refresh you can bet the designers laboured long into the night on the tiniest detail. How about making the exhaust pipe a little bit fatter because it gives the back of the car a more sporty look?

Tick that one off among a host of changes to a model that claims one in five sales to British buyers of new BMWs and is expected to find 30,000 homes here each year.

You need to be a bit of a BMW anorak to spot the new tailpipe but changes to the lights at both ends give the latest 1 Series a wider, bolder look.

Inside, the cockpit is still aimed at serious drivers but there's a modest injection of extra pizzazz with added gloss black and splashes of chrome. But it's under the surface where BMW has made its more

But it's under the surface where BMW has made its more important changes, starting with the choice of a new diesel engine (largely shared with a Mini Cooper D) that promises more than adequate performance and startling (theoretical) economy.

More powerful diesels are offered too, along with a range of petrol engines that climax with the M135i and its 155mph potential.

And for those critics who said BMWs were too meanly equipped for the money, comes news that every new car from the company – from cheapest 1 Series upward – will have satellite navigation as standard by September.

Generous

That doesn't mean you will be short of the chance to spend extra on options, of which there is long list, from metallic paint (£550) and a £600 sound system upgrade to active cruise control (£790) and a £330 reversing camera.

Even so, standard kit across the new range (which extends from £20,245 to £31,730 at the moment) is more generous than reputation has, ranging from DAB radio and Bluetooth to a big colour screen on the dash, climate control and LED lights at the rear.

Most buyers are happy to pay £1,000 more for a Sport package of different alloys, steering wheel and body styling tweaks or even find £2,700 for an M Sport package of bigger alloys, LED headlights, styling additions and firmer suspension.

Whichever version you end up with it will be a notably well finished car with plenty of room in the front, adequate space in the rear for grown-ups and a reasonably sized boot. If you need extra space at the expense of losing that sporty feel, BMW will happily point you towards the new 2 Series mini MPV.

Out on the road in the most economical version of this latest 1 Series you soon enjoy the characteristic thrum from its three-cylinder diesel engine (distant but mildly sporty) and relish the way it moves the car with enthusiasm.

A crispy, firm gearchange and well-weighted steering combine with a ride that stays firmly in control without ever descending to discomfort to make this a car that covers ground with real enthusiasm.

ground with real enthusiasm.

And with fine economy too. A brisk drive over some challenging Wiltshire roads saw 57mpg on the trip computer, with a gentler session tipping the figure well into the 60s. That's a commendable figure and a realistic aim for a long term every.

The £395 worth of front sports seats were superbly comfortable, lacking only adjustable lumbar support (£230 extra) as a final flourish.

Even so, here is a car that looks set to keep BMW dealers and buyers happy for years to come.

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Warm blast with this wind

By John Griffiths

lt's a tough life: soon after Volkswagen unveils its ultimate sporting model to put at the top of your wish list, VW comes up with another.

This is the new Scirocco R, a low sleek and purposeful coupe which, under the skin, has much in common with the flagship Golf R. But it's lower, wider and with its distinctive coupe styling just one glance is enough to tell you this is a car with sporting pretensions.

Once behind the wheel, in the cockpit-like driver's position, you very rapidly become aware this is no empty promise: stunning acceleration and super sharp handling make a sporting dream become reality.

Lower and wider than the Golf, on the road it's potent but composed. It's hard to explain but it just feels so right. The prices are similar (£32,035

for the Scirocco) so if you're lucky enough to be in this area of the market it comes down to personal choice, and perhaps a little more practicality in the Golf's hatchback body if you're a family man

Under the Scirocco's bonnet is VW's renowned 2.0 litre turbocharged petrol engine, producing a whopping 280Ps of power and 350Nm of torque, which explains its 5.3 seconds for the 0 to 62mph acceleration time. That's with the dual clutch DSG auto transmission - the six speed manual is four tenths slower.

That's slightly down on the compa-rable Golf, which has an extra 20PS

under the right foot, but neither are likely to have much practical effect on ordinary roads.

The Scirocco was designed as a coupe in the traditional sense and there are not too many competitors in and price.

This latest version has been refined and modernised with new headlights, fog lights and daytime running lights (LEDs are optional), LED taillights, and a redesigned front bumper which now features an aerodynamic blade or

Inside the dashboard has been updated with new-look dials and auxiliary instruments in a pod above the centre console, a tribute to the 1974 original.

Pleasant

There's a real sporting ambience as you slide into the beautifully shaped and low-slung leather sports seats, with instruments falling easily to hand.

With Instruments railing easily to hard.
Visibility is good, despite the low seating, and there's an upmarket feel.
The soundtrack is a pleasant rasp under acceleration, but it's slightly muted and not so loud as to be tiresome on the sort of long journey this car would make light work of.

The boot is impressive for a coupe (343 litres with the rear seats up, 1,233 seats down). There's quite a lip to lift is already low slung it doesn't seem so bad.

The Scirocco is fitted with VW's adapative chassis with comfort, normal and sport settings, allowing you to choose throttle response, damper rates and steering map.

In practice 'Normal' is perfect for



most conditions, providing a good balance between composed ride and the sort of sharp, precise handling you expect from a dedicated sports model. Sporting mode, naturally, firms thing up so you get a harder ride for dynamic benefits you shouldn't really need on public roads, as the normal setting does the job perfectly well.

It feels quick and eager to turn in,

assisted by a sophisticated electronic differential system which very effectively eliminates the dual demons of powerful front wheel drive cars - understeer and torque steer. It's also wider and lower than the Golf, imparting even more to its inherent stability.

The Scirocco R, equipped with the excellent DSG transmission is slightly quicker than the manual, 0 to 62mph sprint in 5.3 seconds. But equally, if not more important, is its impressive in-gear performance in the 40 to 60mph and 50 to 70mph overtaking brackets: it is certainly a car for mak ing progress on our congested roads.

Average fuel consumption is 35.3mpg according to official figures, but that of course depends on driving style. Its CO2 rating is 187g/km, which under current rules puts it in the 30 per cent bracket for benefit in kind tax

If you want good looks and fun for less money, the latest Scirocco die-

sel at may appeal. It's still a quick car (0 to 62mph in 7.5 seconds) but its capable of averaging a pretty staggering 64.2mpg. That's a CO2 figure of 115g/km – better than some small family hatchbacks – and you BIK tax liability falls to 19 per cent of the lower £28,375 purchase price. Insurance will cost less, too.

The mighty R version sits at the top

of a four-model range, although all come with a comprehensive package of safety systems including six air-bags, electronic stability control and differential systems, ABS with brake assist, traction control and parking sensors. It is distinguished by larger,

19-inch alloys for its low profile tyres Inside, you get standard features such as dual zone climate control, multifunction computer, electric front windows and mirrors, automatic headlights, multifunction steering wheel and a touchscreen control for navigation, audio and communications

It is a distinctly different offering, no doubt part of its attraction, and the range will be complemented soon by the new, 220PS Scirocco S.

With the recent raft of upgrades to the family, VW is aiming to broaden the appeal and build on the car's sound fan base.

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07/57 Ford Fiesta 1.4 Ghia



£4995 / £24 Per Week 09/59 Suzuki SX4 1.5 GL 59k, Grey, Air Conditioning, CD, E/Windows

24695 / £23 Per Week

07/07 Citroen C4 Picasso 1.6 HDiVTR Plus Diesel Automatic 7 Seater, 64k, Beige, Alloys, CD, E/Windows



08/08 Nissan Micra 1.2 16v (79bhp) Acenta+ Bdr, 48k, Grey Metallic, *LOW INSURANCÉ* Air Con £3795 / £18 Per Week



08/58 Fiat Bravo 1.9 Multijet Diesel Dynamic, 61k, Blue, Alloys, Air con, CD 4495 / £22 Per Week



06/06 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Style Climate 3dr, 59k, Black, *LOW INSURANĆE* Air Con, Heated Screen, CD £3495 / £29 Per Week



07/57 Renault Kangoo 1.6 16v 95 Expression Automatic, 37k, Red CD, E/Windows, Sliding Side Doors 24295 / £27 Per Week

5dr, 44k, Blue Metallic, Alloys, Air Con, CD, El Windows, Heated Front Screen **£4295 / £27 Per Week**



07/57 Fiat Punto 1.2 Dynamic 5dr. 39 k. Blue. Alloys. Air Con. CD £3295 / £19 Per Week



06/06 Renault Clio 1.4 Dynamique idr, 58k, Orange Metallic, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/Windows E2995 / £18 Per Week



01/51 Volkswagen Beetle 2.0 3dr, 77k, Blue Metallic, Alloys, CD Player, Electric Windows **£2495 / £48 Per Week**

Finance example: 07/57 Ford Fiesta 1.4 Ghia 3dr, Cash Price £3995, Deposit £300, Amount of credit £4695, Fixed interest rate 6.25% Flat rate, 11.8% APR, 60 Payments of £80.83 (£18.66 per week) Total amount payable £5149.80 (Excludes £150 Document fee and £150 Completion fee, Subject to status)

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07/07 Ford Focus I.6 Ghia

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in venue move and price drop

AN evening with multi-time world boxing champion Ricky Hatton next month has been switched to the Norfolk Hotel in Birmingham with ticket prices slashed.

The ring great was due to top of the bill for an evening at Dunstall Racecourse, but the event has now been switched to the bigger Hagley Road venue.

"The Hitman' will now spend the price in the correct of the price in the pr

the night in the second city on Friday June 19 to talk about his life and career, during a question and

answer session.
Still just 36, the Mancunian ruled as the IBF, IBO and WBA 'super' title holder and is the only Englishman to have shared a ring

Enginsiman to have shared a ring with Floyd Mayweather Jnr and Manny Pacquiao.

He's headlined the major shows in Las Vegas and over here, too, which drew a then-record 55,000 fans to what is now the Etihad of the control of the short of t Stadium at Manchester City Football Club.

ball Club.

The famed bodysnatcher lost just three times in 48 pro contests at light welterweight and welter, with two of those to Mayweather and Pacquiao.

He's won legendary wars with the likes of Kostya Zsu, Luis Collazo and Juan Urango and was Ring Magazine's Fighter of the Year in 2005, when he held their title.

title.

He took a long hiatus from the sport before an ill-fated return after three years in 2012, where he was counted out in the ninth round against Vyacheslav Sendenthe

Tickets, which include a meal, start from £25. For information, call event organiser Ken Purchase on 07976 842 383.

Jamieson is making a big impression

HALESOWEN Cycling Club's Jamieson Blain, aged 13, continues to show how he is developing into an accomplished rider with an impressive showing in a recent tour.

He finished a fine fourth overall in the Screen Tech Youth Tour U-14 age group race which took place over four stages on the Preston Circuit recently

Blain was the leading Halesowen rider from the club team which in-cluded Liam Allen, Luke Harris,

Ella Harris, Alex Barker and Dan-iell Barker.

The Halesowen youngsters are all looking forward to riding in the Halesowen Friday Night Track

The league is due to resume on Friday June 12 at the Manor Abbey Cycle Track.

Hatton night Berahino in, Afobe out for England

a place with England at the European Under-21 Championships with Albion's Saido Berahino named in the 23-man squad.

Berahino was included as expected by boss Gareth Southgate in the final party for the championships in the Czech Republic this month, but Afobe missed the cut as the group was whittled down from 27 to 23.

Berahino had been a key player in England's qualifying campaign for the finals and has been named along with Tottenham's Harry Kane and Burnley's Danny Ings as the strikers in the final squad.

But Afobe, whose flying form for Wolves in the sec-

ond half of the season propelled him into contention,

Southgate said: "Benik had been in the England system at younger age groups and had a really good season last year and if we had any problems then I wouldn't hesitate to call him in.

would be resitate to call nim in.

"He's been really enthusiastic about potential involvement and I've been very impressed.

"But it's always a difficult conversation to have because you'd like to give everybody the opportunity, but you're not able to do that."

Albion boss Tony Pulis said: "It's a brilliant chievement for Saido.
"I hope he goes out there and has a successful

tournament because he thoroughly deserves this

level – is a great honour and achievement.
"It's a fitting end to what was an excellent season

"Since I walked through the door he's been a good

professional and improved his overall game."

England have been drawn in Group B and will take on Portugal (June 18), Sweden (June 21) and Italy (June 24). The tournament concludes on June

Meanwhile, two Wolves players are due in action at under-20 level this evening, with full-backs Dom-inic Iorfa and Kortney Hause expected to feature for England against Mexico.

Frustration as rivals show fighting spirit

admitted he was frustrated by the resistance of Stourbridge after seeing

the teams draw at the weekend.

A stunning innings of 93 from just 53 balls from wicketkeeper Wes Griffiths proved to be in vain as the visitors just held on with some stubborn batting.

After losing the toss the home side were put into bat by Stourbridge and it was the skipper who got the innings off to a steady start with youngster Jujhar Johal.

The opening partnership was worth 44 when Shahid, back in some sort of form after his difficulties of sevent weeke was first up to 28 often.

Shahid, back in some sort of form after his diffi-culties of recent weeks, was first out for 28 after getting a leading edge to the bowling of Stour-bridge's young seamer Zain Ul Hassan. Johal was happy to play the anchor role until he was dismissed for 11 quickly followed by over-seas star Tarryck Gabriel (1) who was beaten in the flight by a delivery from his Stourbridge and St. Lucian counterpart Audy Alexander.

Boundary

Former Brockhampton duo Ben Stebbings and Will Barrett moved the total into three figures before Stebbings (36) was out to a fine catch on the boundary by UI Hassan off the bowling of spinner James Wood.

the boundary by Ul Hassan of the bowling of spinner James Wood.

That set the scene for Griffiths to enter and plunder the Stourbridge bowling in one of the most aggressive displays of hitting seen at Seth Somers Park in years.

After losing the wicket of Barrett (32) Griffiths innings, which contained seven sixes and seven fours, single-handily took Halesowen to a total of 241-8 and maximum batting points off their allotted 55 overs when at one stage it looked like anything over 200 would have been a bonus.

Alex Bingham and Steve Game got the Stourbridge innings got of to a steady start until Bingham (17) was caught at short cover off the bowling of Faisal Shahid with the score on 37.

Opening partner Game (23) quickly followed when caught behind by Griffiths again off the bowling of Shahid who went on the bowl through bowling of Shahid who went on the bowl through

his 17 overs to return figures of 3-35.

Stourbridge were still in the hunt but Alexander was controversially given run out for 21.

Tennis star Whiley hauls in bronze



Britain's bronze medallists including Halesowen's Jordanne Whiley, left. Pic: Mathilde Dusol

HALESOWEN'S Jordanne Whi-ley sealed Great Britain's women a bronze medal in the BNP Pari-bas World Team Cup for the sixth

bas World Team Cup for the sixth time in seven years. At the flagship team wheelchair tennis event – held in Antalya, Turkey – world number nine Lucy Shuker got Britain's challenge under way by racing through the opening set of her singles match against Bianca Osterer 6-0 before

Osterer was forced to retire with Shuker also leading the second set

2-0. Whiley completed a 2-0 win over Germany when she defeated Kath-

Germany when she deteated Katharina Kruger.

"I'm very proud of the team for pulling it out of the bag after what's been a tough week," said Whiley, who will now head to Roland Garros for this year's French Open. Meanwhile, Gordon Reid

Mhiley, left. Pic: Mathilde Dusol and Whiley will both face Dutch opposition on Wednesday when the wheelchair tennis event gets underway at Roland Garros. Reid plays world No. 8 Maikel Scheffers for a place in the men's singles semi-finals and Whiley takes on world No. 2 and Australian Open champion Jiske Griffioen in the women's singles at the second Grand Slam of the year in Paris.

Benteke will head out of Villa, says Lambert

FORMER Villa boss Paul Lambert believes Christian Benteke will leave the club this summer as ru-mours emerge the forward wants European football.

mours emerge the forward wants European football.

The 24-year-old striker is set for showdown talks with Tim Sherwood this week as the manager bids to hold on to his star asset.

Benteke currently has two years left on the deal he signed in 2013, but is wanted by Liverpool and a host of other clubs who are reportedly ready to match his £32.5m buy-out clause.

The player's agent, Eris Kismet, has allegedly claimed his client wants Europa League or Champions League football next season.

And Lambert expects the player, who he signed for around £7m from Genk, to soon be out the Villa exit door.

who he signed for around £7m from Genk, to soon be out the Villa exit door.

"It looks like if he is going to go, it will be this year," Lambert said.

"But I had it every year I was there that he probably wanted to go, because he was playing that well, you can't stop teams coming in with that level of money.

"It depends how Aston Villa want to view it now. If Christian goes maybe they will get money to buy someone. But as a goalscorer and a player, he's top class.

"In his first year at Villa he was only behind Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi in terms of goalscorring ratio, which was an incredible achievement.

"He's certainly good enough. He's only 24, he's got years ahead of him. Okay he didn't have a good game on Saturday but he is a top, top player."

top player."

Another forward potentially heading out of Villa Park is Andi Weimann.

George find themselves in a battle

South Staffs Division 1

THE George 200 Penn 198
THE George had to battle hard to overcome a strong Penn side in a match where each side had six win-

ners.

A close first four saw The George hold a slender two-shot lead with Neil Hopwood (21-11) and Paddy McGuinness (21-12) winning.

In the middle four wins by Dave Hofffan (21-6), Steve Fagan (21-13) and Darren Wood (21-15) built up a 20 shot advantage and appeared to have put the match out of the reach of Penn, but they fought back to have three winners out of the last four with The George won by two shots thanks to Keith Waltons 21-15 card.

Warwick & Worcs Premier 1: Greville 236 The George 204 (Pete Davenport 21-14).



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Frustration as rivals battle Page 39

Whiley hauls in bronze medal Page 39



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Hutton will focus on the positives

VILLA full-back Alan Hutton is determined to focus on the positives – despite his side suffering the equal worst FA Cup final defeat since 1903.

Only Chelsea in 1994 and Brighton & Hove Albion in 1983, both to Manches-ter United, have suffered the ignominy of a 40 Cup final reverse – and the latter only after it went to a replay.

But Hutton believes there is plenty to be thankful for after Tim Sherwood saved Villa from Premier League relega-tion and guided them to the final of the world's oldest and most famous domestic cup competition for the first time since

"We have to take the positives – we stayed up and got to a final," said the defender.

"When the new manager came in, things turned and there's a lot of posi-tives about us, so we need to strengthen the squad and see where we can go."

As well as targeting the transfer mar-ket, the 30-year-old knows the current side need to work even harder to make sure the Villans do not find themselves back in a battle to avoid the drop next

"Everyone knows the squad needs to be strengthened and every squad needs to have competition for places," he said.
"We have to do better, improve ourselves and train as hard as we can.

Although Villa came up short on the day, the Scottish international – who has revived his Villa career after ending last season on loan at Bolton in the Championship – was keen to heap praise on to the victors of the day.

"Arsenal are a world-class team – you can't take anything away from them because they have quality all over the pitch," he said.

Wallace looks to reach a new level under boss Jackett

JED WALLACE admits he has been 'blown away' by the scale of Wolves' ambition as he revealed his Molineux move is a dream come true.

The £275,000 signing from Portsmouth believes he can take his game to a whole new level after confessing he has been bowled over by his new surround-

ings.

"Wolves blew me away with their ambition. It was unbelievable," said the 21-year-old attacking midfielder.

After walking around there for two or three hours and speaking to people, I was thinking it was a move which can take my game to a whole new level.

"Molineux is unbelievable and I couldn't be happier—it's the best feeling to sign for a club like that.

"They're going for the Premier League

- they're gunning for it. Kenny Jackett
has given me a chance and to play at a club like that in that division is a dream come true. If I do well here, my career can really take off, like I always wanted it to. Wolves went out of their way to make me feel welcome."

He believes he can rival the 17 goals he scored for Pompey last season.

Rowe aims to return with a bang

WOLVES' forgotten man Tommy Rowe has opened up on his injury hell and declared: "This is my season."

Injuries restricted the utility man to just 14 ap-

The former Peterborough captain played his last game in December and had to watch from the sidelines as his team-mates went within a whisker of reaching the play-offs.

Rowe was thought to be coming back into the

Football

ken foot twice including during the Boxing Day

we admitted: "It was a frustrating first sea-

watch in the second half of the season even though I would rather not have been watching.

"Hopefully this is my season now to go out there and get a good run of games under my belt and show what I can do.

"All I have been thinking about since picking" the first game."

"Hintersex-wise, 26-year-old Rowe said he was now in a 'good place' and was hoping to start pre-season in great shape.

"And I have been thinking about since picking" the first game."

"Final Park Tames."

"And Hopefully this is my season now to go out there and get a good run of games under my belt and he is happy to be boss Kenny Jackett's utility man if he mean's he's in the team.

up the injury over Christmas was my next game. "I hoped that would be at the end of last season and that was probably the drive which got

son and that was probably the drive which got me back.

"Now I am even more determined and excited about what is to come and have already been studying the pre-season fixtures.

"I can't wait for the first training session and

the first game.'

Berahino is likely to go, Foster

GOALKEEPER Ben Foster thinks it is 'inevitable' Saido Berahino will leave Albion for a top-four club – if the strik-

Albion for a top-four club – if the striker keeps performing in the Premier League.

The 21-year-old scored 20 goals in all competitions in a season which also saw him earn a first senior England call-up. Speculation has linked him with a move to a top-four side and Foster believes the club will eventually receive an offer they find too good to turn down.

"If he keeps working and performing in the Premier League it is inevitable you are going to get the big clubs come knocking," said the Baggies keeper. "Eventually there is going to be an offer too good to refuse.

"Eventually there is going to be an offer too good to refuse.

"He has got bags of potential and is still so raw, he is still only a young lad.
"If we can just polish him up a bit more you can see even more from him.
"When it comes to big clubs coming in for him, that is probably going to be inevitable."

Albior remain benefit of greening on

inevitable."

Albion remain hopeful of agreeing an extension to Berahino's current deal, which has two years left to run, with boss Tony Pulis urging the striker to remain at Albion in order to protect his development. development.

While the youth team product enjoyed

While the youth team produce enjoyed a fine season on the pitch, he courted controversy off it at times, most notably in February when he gave an unauthorised interview and talked of moving to a "bigger club".

But Foster believes a more mature Be-

But roser believes a more liature be-rahino is unlikely to rock the boat this summer and push for a move. "Saido is a good lad, I'm sure he'il keep his head down and we won't see any of the farcical stuff you've seen with other players in the news lately." **Top sprinters are**

ready for Brum GP

THE world's best female sprinters will line up over 200m at the Sainsbury's Birmingham Grand Prix on Sunday, June 7, as the new British 100m record holder Dina Asher-Smith takes on the likes of Allyson Felix and Shelly-Ann

likes of Allyson Felix and Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce.
American Felix currently tops the world 200m rankings after running 21.98 seconds at the Doha leg of the IAAF Diamond League, but the eight-time world champion and reigning Olympic champion will face a stern test from current world champion and Olympic silver medallist Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce of Jamaica.
Three of Felix's eight world titles have been at 200m

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pearances last year, but he has vowed to make far bigger impact in 2015/16.

fold in April, but a knee injury hampered his comeback, after he had previously suffered a bro-

win at Watford

son for me.

"The lads did really well and it was great to watch in the second half of the season even

GUNNERS SHOW HEIR FOUR-CE

IT was a day that promised much but delivered so painfully little.

Villa fans may have walked along Wembley Way in hope rather than expectation before the start of the 134th FA Cup final.

But never, in their worst nightmares, would they have believed their biggest day out in more than 20 years would turn into such disappoint-

In the modern era of football, where winning trophies is becoming increasingly difficult for anyone outside the top four, trips to Wembley have to savoured.

Yet as their manager stood with his head in his hands after Per Mertesacker, with the simplest of headers, put Arsenal 3-0 ahead – many Villa fans headed to the exit doors of the world's most famous stadium.

When that goal went in, there was 30 minutes still remaining – with Sherwood opting to bring on midfield enforcer Carlos Sánchez in a bid to prevent any further damage.

Juggernaut

But Villa were unable to stop the Arsenal juggernaut from the first whistle to the last and when Olivier Giroud swept home a fourth in stoppage time, he wrapped up an historical day for Arsena Wenger's side.

Arsenal are now the only team to have lifted the FA Cup 12 times. The result also ensured Wenger became only the second manager, and the first foreigner, to lift the trophy six times —

with Villa great George Ramsey the other man

Arsenal were electric, with Santi Cazorla and

Arsenal were electric, with Santi Cazorla and Mesut Özil dominant in midfield.

The Spaniard and the German may not be the biggest or the strongest, but they ran the game with a finesse Villa could never get to grips with. Even when Sherwood's side did manage to get on the ball, they were bereft of any movement or invention with their passing sloppy and their tackling rash tackling rash.

A cross from the the lively Nacho Monreal was headed back across goal by Alexis Sanchez and,



Aston Villa's Ron Vlaar is dejected during the FA Cup Final at Wembley Stadium

with Villa's defenders failing to react, Walcott picked up the ball 25 yards from goal and fired

fired an unstoppable strike past Shay Given.
Only brilliance from keeper Given and left-back Kieran Richardson, with a vital block, had ensured the men in claret and blue went in at the

break just a solitary goal down.

But with an inspirational talk from Sherwood and a positive start to the second period, there was still genuine belief Villa could turn things

Sadly, whatever was said at the interval was soon irrelevant after Sanchez scored a goal fitting

for a final.

The winger, who now looks a snip at £30m

an unstoppable strike, which dipped and swerved past Given and into the net. It was a world-class finish from a world-class player and when Merte-

finish from a world-class player and when Merte-sacker then made it 3-0 everybody knew Villa's 58-year wait for an FA Cup was set to rumble on. Despite everything, Villa did improve slightly. Jack Grealish, of whom so much was expected, had a decent appeal for a penalty turned down late on when Héctor Bellerin tugged at his shirt. While Gabby Agbonlahor had previously seen a penalty appeal waved away after he was tumbled to the ground.

to the ground.

Sherwood was, understandably, left devastated.



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